



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

**BONUS!**



**RUGBY WORLD  
CUP POSTER**

# KIDS

**SEA OTTERS**  
CUTE  
BUT  
TOUGH

**DARE TO EXPLORE**  
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**AWESOME  
ANIMAL QUIZ  
CARDS**

# Arctic Alert!

**SAVE THE PLANET**

- Coastal Cleanup
- Cool Recycling Family Project
- Tiger Rescue

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC



Issue 85 September 2011 R25,95 (VAT incl.)



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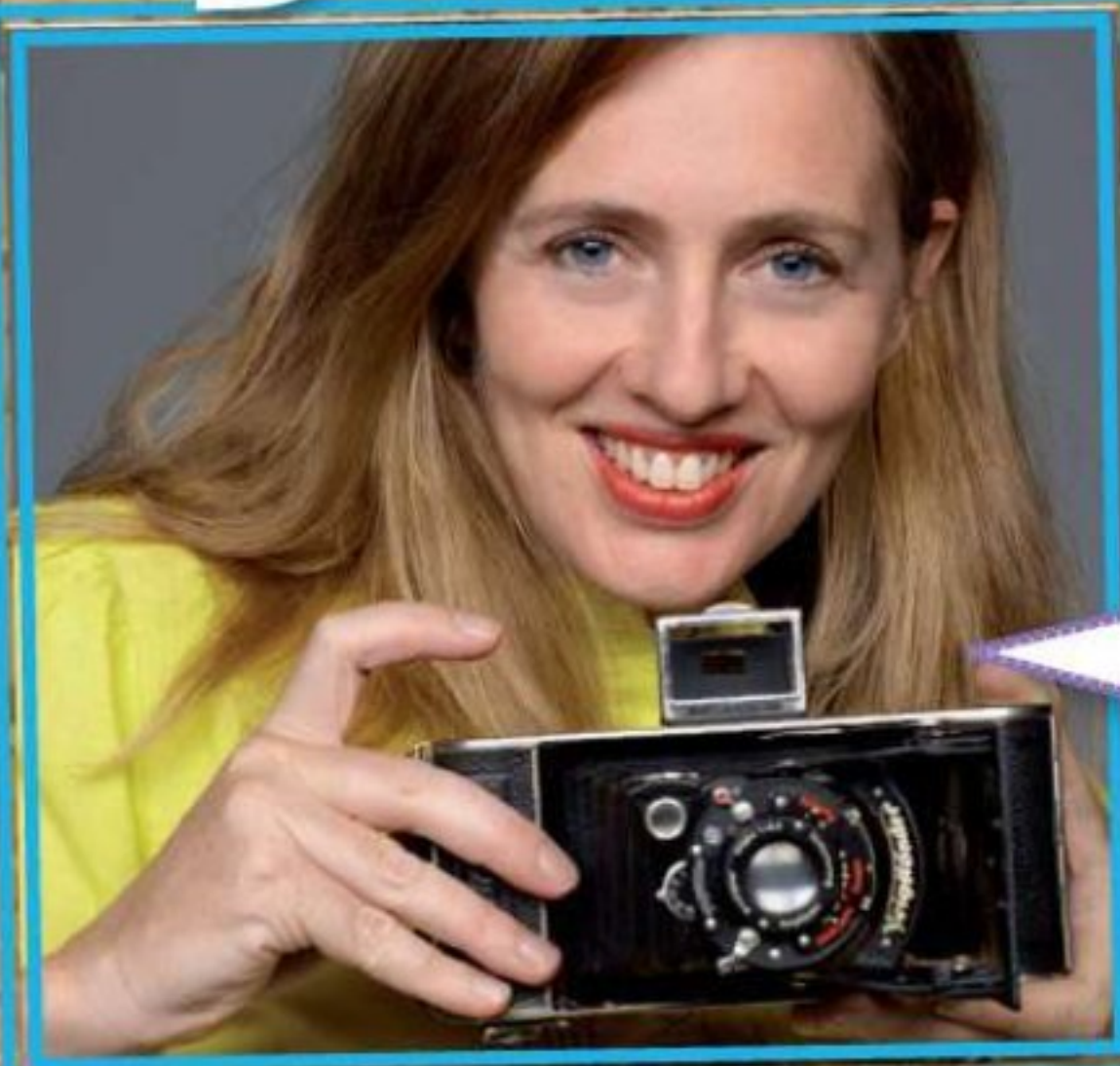
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# HI, KIDS



## LETTER OF THE MONTH

DEAR FIONA,

MY NAME IS KOLBE AND SOON I WILL BE EIGHT YEARS OLD. MY DAD WORKS ON A GAME FARM IN BRITS. WE HAVE JUST HAD SOME BABY OSTRICHES AND THEY ARE IN A CAMP TO MAKE SURE THE OTHER ANIMALS DO NOT KILL THEM. I LOVE LIVING ON THE FARM AND I LOVE ALL THE ANIMALS AROUND US.

KOLBE GULLEMANN, 7, BRITS

### Did you Know?

In 2010 bottle caps were the item collected most on beaches on coastal cleanup day. Turn to page 45 to see how this litter bug can be turned into a cool curtain.



The good news is that nearly one third of plastic produced in South Africa is being recycled, the bad news is the rest is ending up in landfills or scattered about all over the place like confetti at a wedding.

NG KIDS took part in the coastal cleanup last year and it was pretty shocking to see what ends up on the beaches. We'll be going again this year and hopefully there will be less to pick up! If you are in Cape Town on Saturday 17 September and want to join us, send me an e-mail and I'll give you the details closer to the time.

When it comes to saving our environment and animals the more voices we have shouting about it the better. Artists, through their work, can reach people who might not know as much about environmental issues as other people. On the Inside Scoop page this month we feature a Dutch artist who is making a sculpture called Plastic Reef from plastic fished out of the sea. He feels that artists have a different perspective on the problem. "Something familiar and beautiful like a coral reef made out of something so disgusting and ugly (melted plastic debris) is more likely to stay in someone's mind and also the issue that created it in the first place," says Maarten.

Art can change the world and so can photography. We at NG KIDS want more kids to take up photography. It's a great hobby which can lead to a very fulfilling career. Turn to page 22 to find out how to become the next NG KIDS Young Photographer of the Year.

Dare to Explore!

## SUBSCRIBERS OF THE MONTH

This month's **lucky subscribers** are, Christopher Southey (10), Jana Fouche (12), Kate Duff (9), Matthew Smith (11) and Tiaan Blomerus (11).

They have each won a **box of Gelli Baff** children's bath and pool jelly plus a **G-Spa Therapeutic Gel Bath** for mom too! Gelli Baff gives children a

fun bath time while cleansing and softening the skin. This two pack **powder turns any children's bath or pool water into jelly** like goo and back again. Visit [www.gellibaff.co.za](http://www.gellibaff.co.za) for more information.

Go to **page 44** to subscribe. You might be next month's **lucky winner!**



## WRITE TO US!

Send us your letters, birthdays, pictures and comments. We want to hear from you, so start writing!

- Write to us at: The Editor, NG KIDS, P.O. Box 2271, Cape Town 8000.
- Send us an e-mail to [fiona@ngkids.co.za](mailto:fiona@ngkids.co.za) or SMS\* us a letter to "NGK Letters" 33970.
- Now you can also MMS\* us your pics to 082-0080-337.

\*Standard rates apply for MMSs, so ask your parents first! SMSs cost R1,50. Free SMSs do not apply. See [www.ngkids.co.za](http://www.ngkids.co.za) for terms and conditions.



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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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## On the Cover

COVER PHOTOGRAPH: ©MATHIEU BELANGER / REUTERS / CORBIS  
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PAGE 4: JOEL SARTORE (POLAR BEAR); © IFAW (TIGER); MILO BURCHAM / PHOTOLIBRARY (GROUP OF OTTERS); ANDREW COOK (BREAKFAST)



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# {inside} SCOOP

BY FIONA THOMSON

## Dumping plastic

"We're as far from land as we could possibly be in all directions and what do you expect to see? How about a plastic water bottle," wrote Dr Marcus Eriksen, while leading a plastic tracking expedition on his boat the *Sea Dragon*.

Plastic is very useful to us: it's light, doesn't break easily and is cheap to produce. But it's very bad for the environment. Up to a quarter of all plastic ends up in the ocean and it doesn't disappear because it doesn't biodegrade. In the ocean it is broken up into tiny pieces, making a deadly soup for our marine animals, as fish and birds mistake the bits for food. Researchers have found that a lot of ocean plastic is caught in ocean gyres. These are huge, swirling stretches of circulating currents. Charles Moore, who first discovered the ocean dumping ground, estimates that there is three million tons in the North Pacific Gyre alone.

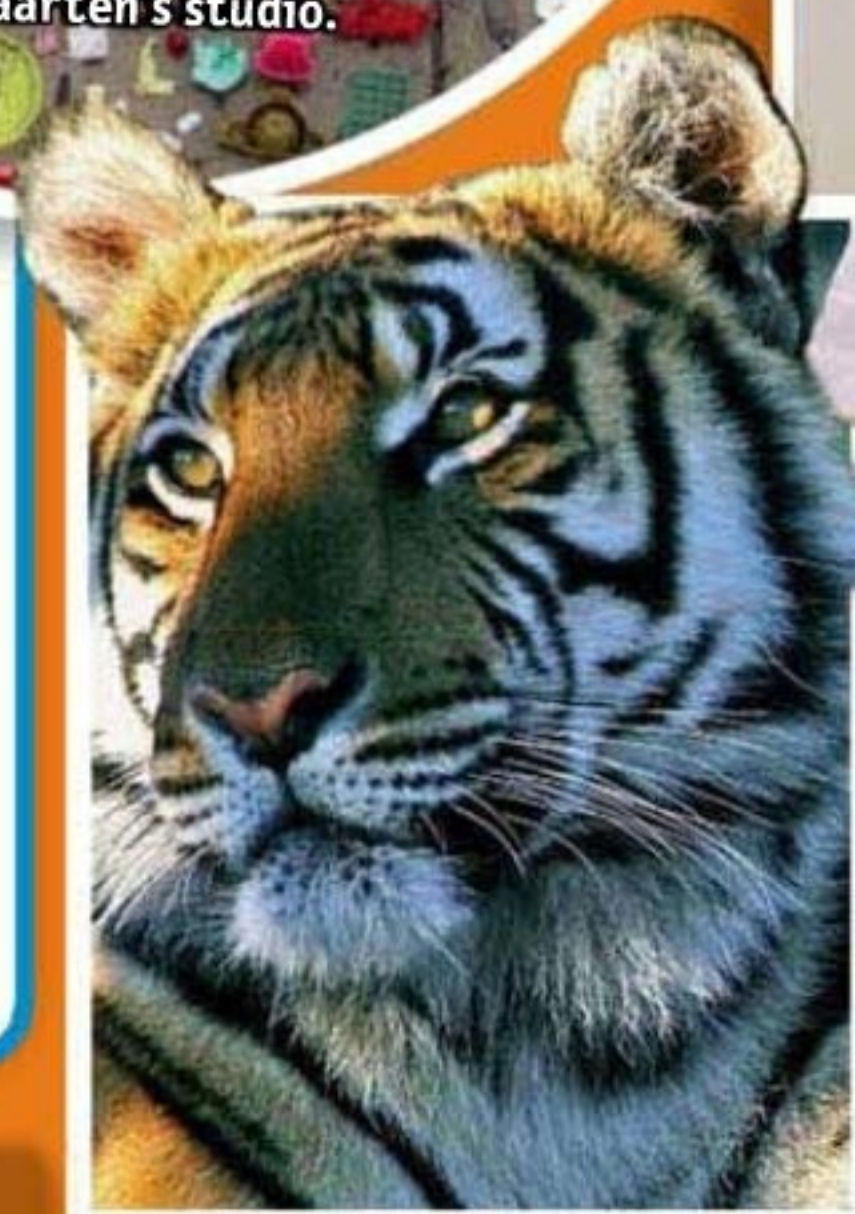
Maarten van den Eynde is an artist who co-founded the plastic tracking project. On a journey covering 3 000 kilometres they fished out 396 kilograms of plastic bits and bobs – from lighters to safety helmets and lots of plastic bottles. He displayed the ocean plastic outside his studio, then melted it down to make a plastic reef which is on show in an art gallery. There's no excuse now – we know about the dumping ground and must do what we can to stop it. Reduce, recycle and refuse!



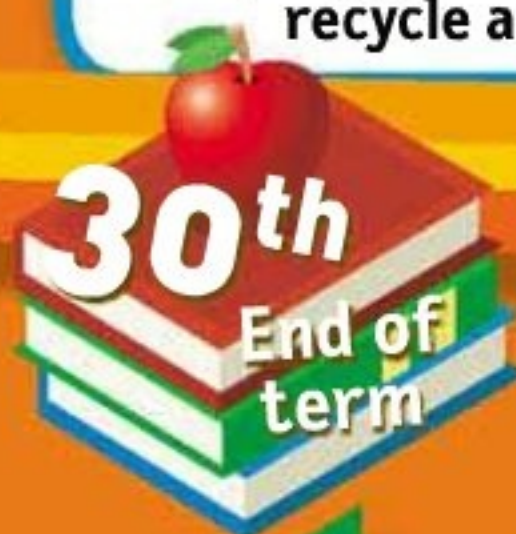
Plastic scooped out of the sea during one expedition laid out outside Maarten's studio.



Plastic Reef is a growing sculpture made of plastic debris coming from the world's oceans.



Artists help the tiger: In July this year, Li Quan teamed up with a famous fashion school in London for a T-shirt design competition. Here is one of the winning designs.



## FOR YOUR DIARY



## Fast Facts about the Rugby World Cup



1. The 2011 tournament takes place in New Zealand and starts on 9 September.
2. The South African team, the Springboks, are the current world champions. They are only the second team in the world to win the World Cup twice.
3. The winning team receives the Webb Ellis Cup named after William Webb Ellis who "invented" the game.
4. There have been six Rugby World Cup tournaments and all but one of these have been won by a team from the southern hemisphere.
5. The first tournament in 1987 was hosted by both New Zealand and Australia.

## Green Month

- 13 to 18: Clean Up SA Week
- 17: Recycling Day
- 17: International Coastal Clean-up Day
- 22: Car free Day
- 28: Green Consumer Day

## SAVE THE TIGERS

Sometimes younger kids (not you, our dear NG KIDS reader!) think that tigers live in Africa along with lions and leopards. But tigers as we know them have never lived in the wild in Africa. That is until now. In 2000 a charity called Save China's Tigers was founded by Li Quan in a desperate attempt to save the critically endangered South China tiger. Cubs were taken from zoos in China and sent to Laohu Valley in South Africa for rewilding. Some people thought it couldn't be done but a decade of hard work has shown that tigers can learn to be wild again. Some are now waiting to return with their African survival skills to their real home in China.



# EXTREME WEIRDNESS

from  
AROUND  
the WORLD



weird-o-meter



## COW SAYS AAAHHH

### WHAT

Massages for cows

### WHERE

Throughout Sweden

### DETAILS

It's stressful being a cow: someone is always mooing in your face and there's all that standing around. But in Sweden dairy cows chill out by snuggling up against one of these devices. That starts the rotating brush, giving the bovines a soothing rubdown *and* a dry bath as it flicks dirt from their hides.

DO THOSE MASSAGERS COME IN HUMAN SIZES?



OOPS! LOOKS LIKE HE FORGOT HIS PADDLE.

weird-o-meter



## KAYAK MEETS BIRDS

### WHAT

Skyaking

### WHERE

Somewhere over Mexico

### DETAILS

What do you get when you cross a kayak with a skydiver? This guy! Miles Daisher is a "skyaker" who jumps out of aeroplanes strapped into a kayak. Using the kayak sort of like a skateboard, Miles spins and twists in the air until he opens his parachute and lands on a tiny strip of water. At least he *hopes* he lands on a strip of water.

weird-o-meter



## BIKE DOESN'T SINK

### WHAT

Floating bicycle

### WHERE

Wuhan, China

### DETAILS

You think you're protecting Earth by drinking water from gigantic bottles. But what can you do with all that plastic? Make a floating bike! That's what one inventor did by attaching eight empties to a regular bicycle. Mini-paddles on the spokes help the bike power through the water.



MAYBE SHE TOOK A WRONG TURN AT THE FISHING PIER.

weird-o-meter



## OCEAN GETS ART SHOW

### WHAT

Underwater artist

### WHERE

Black Sea, off Ukraine

### DETAILS

The last thing you want to do is dunk fine art in water, unless you're underwater artist Alexander Belozor. His speciality is painting underwater landscapes on location. Using a treated canvas and ultrathick paint that doesn't react to seawater, Alexander gives new meaning to the term "watercolour."



THIS WOULD LOOK SO GREAT IN A FISH TANK.



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<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Simisage	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 37	Swanna	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 66	Purrloin	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 95	Full Heal	◆
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<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Tepig	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 44	Joltik	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 73	Mandibuzz	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 102	Revive	◆
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Tepig	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 45	Joltik	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 74	Klink	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 103	Super Scoop Up	◆
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Pignite	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 46	Galvantula	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 75	Klang	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 104	Switch	●
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<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Emboar	★H	<input type="checkbox"/> 49	Musharna	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 78	Patrat	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 107	Water Energy	●
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Pansear	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 50	Woobat	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 79	Watchdog	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 108	Lightning Energy	●
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<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Darmanitan	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 54	Scolipede	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 83	Stoutland	★	<input type="checkbox"/> 112	Metal Energy	●
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Reshiram	★H	<input type="checkbox"/> 55	Solosis	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 84	Pidove	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 113	Reshiram	★U
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Oshawott	●	<input type="checkbox"/> 56	Duosion	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 85	Tranquil	◆	<input type="checkbox"/> 114	Zekrom	★U
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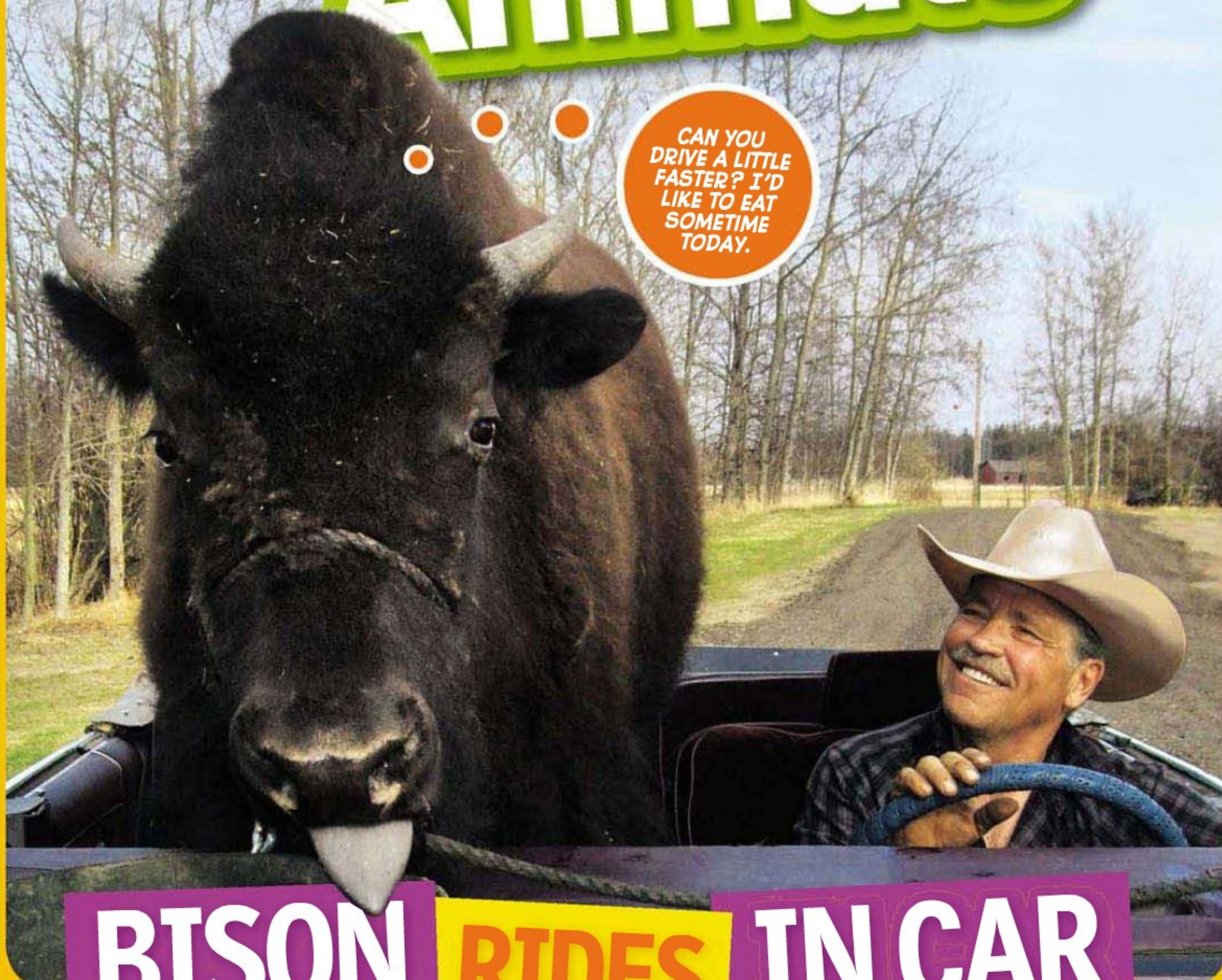
☐ = standard set   ☐ = standard set foil   ☐ = parallel set

★H = rare Halo   ★ = rare   ● = common   ★U = rare Ultra





# Amazing Animals



CAN YOU  
DRIVE A LITTLE  
FASTER? I'D  
LIKE TO EAT  
SOMETIME  
TODAY.

## BISON RIDES IN CAR

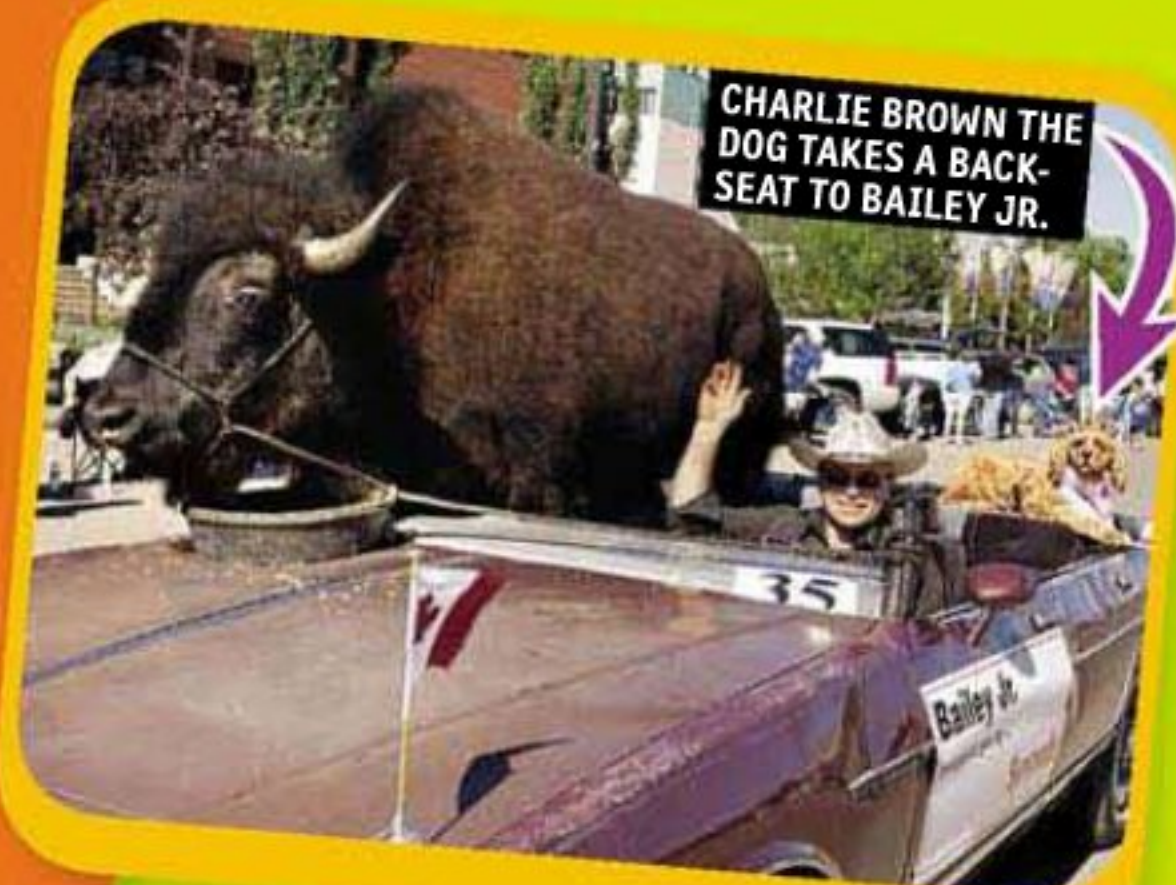
### Spruce Grove, Canada

Don't call Bailey Jr. a backseat driver. That'd be impossible, since the bison takes up seats in the front *and* back while riding to the local burger joint or the mall.

Bailey Jr. has been riding in cars since he was a baby. As an orphan he was adopted by Jim Sautner, who needed to bottle-feed the little bison every few hours. So the rancher created a makeshift seat belt, placed the animal in the backseat of his pickup's cab and took him to work every day.

But soon the bison—who eats 13 kilograms of oats and hay a day—quickly outgrew the backseat. Instead of leaving him at home, Jim got a four-door car, removed the car's roof and passenger seats and reinforced the floor boards. "If he sees me leaving without him, he runs along his fence and follows," Jim says. Bailey Jr. doesn't care what kind of car he rides in, as long as his buddy, Charlie Brown the cocker spaniel, can come, too. The bison doesn't mind sharing the ride... as long as the pooch will sit in the back.

—Jamie Kiffel-Alchek





## DOG PROTECTS PIGLET



### Hörstel, Germany

When Roland Adam found an orphaned newborn Vietnamese potbellied pig alone and shivering on his farm, he wasn't sure what to do. But Katjinga the Rhodesian ridgeback did. She snuggled up to the small pig (now called Paulinchen), cleaning it with her tongue and nursing her as she would her own puppy. "Katjinga lay down, fed her, and kept her warm," Roland says. In fact, this isn't the first time Katjinga cuddled up with orphaned animals—she's also tended rabbits and ducks. "Recently we found her warming up one of our sheep that was sick," Roland says. Sounds like one protective pooch!

— Sarah Wassner Flynn



YOU SMELL  
A LOT BETTER  
THAN THOSE  
OTHER PIGS.

## CAT GETS BIONIC FEET



### Surrey, England

When Oscar the cat lost his back feet in an accident last year, his owners thought he'd have to be put down. Cats need their back feet for survival. But veterinarian Noel Fitzpatrick had an idea.

Noel and a team of engineers created the first-ever realistic prosthetic cat feet for Oscar. The new feet were based on the way antlers grow from a deer's head. The cat's skin and bones could grow into the prosthetics so they'd become part of his body. Rods were fused into Oscar's leg bones, then special curved "feet"

were attached. (Cats rock on their feet to move themselves forward.) Finally, Noel attached tirelike rubber to the bottom of each foot so Oscar wouldn't slip.

Today Oscar does anything that four-footed cats do, including jumping onto beds, crawling up curtains and even scratching his ears with his plastic feet. Mice, beware: Oscar is on the prowl!

— Jamie Kiffel-Alcheh



WALKING TALL

## TAKE A COOL ANIMAL QUIZ—ON YOUR PHONE!

Got a smart phone? With a parent's help, follow these instructions.



- 1 Go to your phone's app store.
- 2 Search for and download a free mobile bar code scanner.
- 3 Open the scanner.
- 4 Aim your phone at the mobile bar code (above) so it's in the middle of the screen.
- 5 Watch what happens!

No smart phone? Take a quiz online at [kids.nationalgeographic.com/almanac-2012](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/almanac-2012).





BY MICHELLE HARRIS

# Check out these outrageous facts.

A TRAFFIC JAM IN CHINA LASTED FOR MORE THAN A WEEK.



Rotten  
eggs  
float in  
water.

Mexico City  
has sunk  
seven metres  
in the past  
100 years.

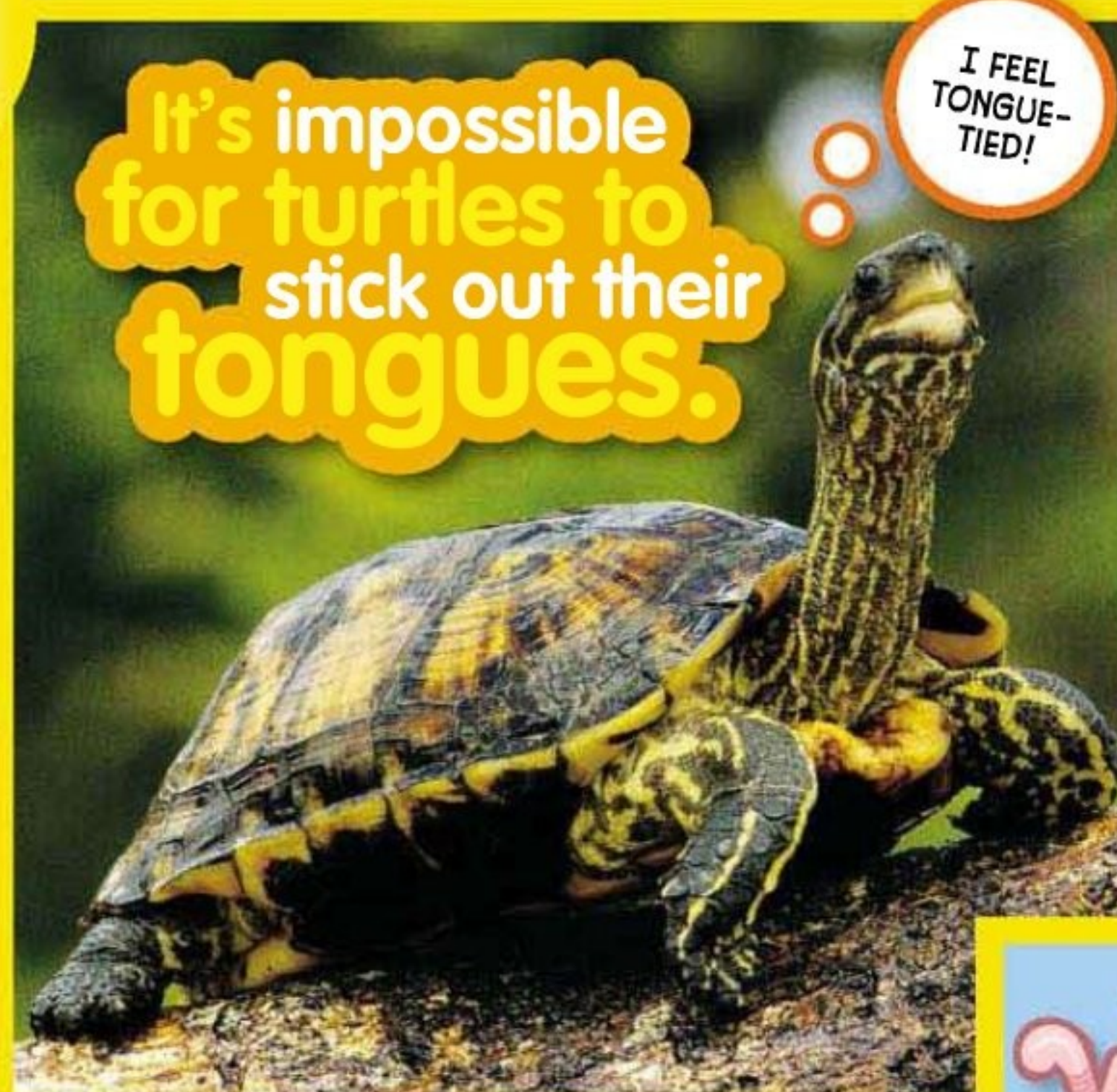
ANCIENT  
GREEKS  
USED

## Hula Hoops.

A FIVE-SEAT  
BICYCLE IS  
CALLED  
A QUINDEM.



KIDS' FINGERPRINTS DISAPPEAR FROM SURFACES FASTER THAN ADULTS' DO.



It's impossible  
for turtles to  
stick out their  
tongues.

A Finnish man  
wrote a novel

made up of

1 000 SMSs.

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worms  
from a  
vending machine  
in Japan.



# Prestik's been Smurfed!

To celebrate the return of the Smurfs, Prestik has turned blue! This is for a limited period of time so collect all six packs of Prestik Blue before they sell out. You can win Smurftastic prizes like PS3s, PS3 games, movie tickets, Bostik goodies and much more! See back of pack for details!

Make a Smurf pencil topper using Bostik Crazy Clay and stick it onto your favourite pen or pencil using Prestik Blue.

## WIN!

Lets get Smurfed! Can you get creative and think of other cool uses for Prestik Blue? Send us your blue-illiant ideas and stand a chance of winning a fantastic Bostik hamper filled with goodies.

E-mail your ideas to [competitions@ngkids.co.za](mailto:competitions@ngkids.co.za) and be sure to put Bostik Smurfs in the subject line of the e-mail.



## THE SMURFS IN 3D

Blue alert! The Smurfs got chased from their village by the evil Gargamel and now have to try and survive in New York, America! But don't let that make you feel blue. The Smurfs are very smart and don't forget that dynamite comes in small (blue) packets!

In cinemas 30 September 2011.





# FOR POLAR BEARS ICE IS BOTH HOME AND HUNTING GROUND. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THAT ICE BEGINS TO MELT?

**A** lumbering bear plods along an ice floe. Swimming under the ice, seals can hear it. They don't want to come up for air as long as that hungry polar bear is there.

The bear can smell them. A polar bear can smell seals from more than one kilometre away and under one metre of heavy snow.

This bear scans the horizon and finds what it is looking for—a hole in the ice. Seals use a dozen or more breathing holes at a time. The bear knows that eventually a seal will pop up for air. It just has to be really quiet and really patient first.

Tucking its massive legs beneath its body, the bear sits on the ice. Its nose stretches forward within reach of the hole and waits and waits.

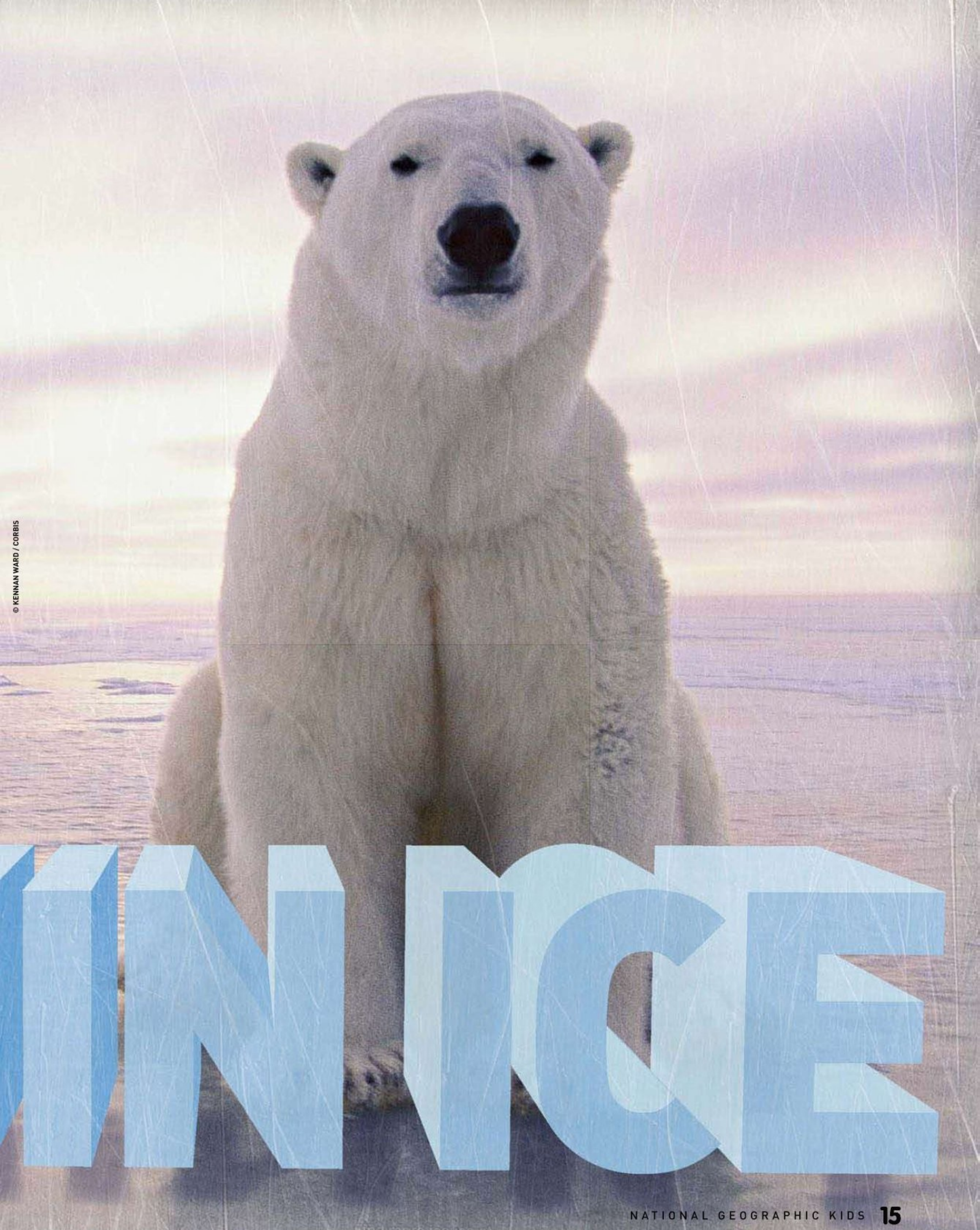
More than an hour passes. Then, in an instant, an unlucky seal pops out of the hole to catch a breath. In that same instant the polar bear pounces. Dinner has arrived.



BY JOHNNA RIZZO

# ON THE





© KENNAN WARD / CORBIS

# MINICE



## PUTTING ON THE KILOS

Under good hunting conditions a polar bear will usually eat one seal every four or five days. One bear can eat 45 kilograms of blubber, or fat, in one sitting. Eating the fat from the bodies of its prey adds blubber to the bear's body.

Fat is important to polar bears. Blubber helps keep it warm. Female polar bears weigh 150 to 300 kilograms. Males usually weigh double that and much of that weight is blubber.

WAITING FOR A SEAL TO POP UP AT A BREATHING HOLE IS CALLED "STILL HUNTING."

## THE ICE KINGDOM

Wild polar bears are found only in the Arctic. The Arctic is the region around Earth's North Pole, which is in the middle of the Arctic Ocean. It is bitterly cold with temperatures falling to as low as minus 40 degrees Celsius.

Although it is an ocean, you could walk across it as the surface freezes into ice. When ice forms over the sea, it doesn't make an even layer like on a skating rink. At first the ice is thin enough for the wind and waves to break it into pieces.

As the pieces of ice get colder, they get thicker. They join together to make larger blocks. As winter comes, the blocks freeze together, forming pack ice.

Most polar bears live and hunt on pack ice. Pack ice is usually about three metres thick and is strong enough to hold a polar bear's weight, as well as that of many Arctic animals.

Many polar bears live in southern regions of the Arctic. There, the pack ice melts in the summer. In places where the ice melts completely, polar bears move onto land.

Land isn't the best place for polar bears because they're cut off from their main food supply. Their ideal habitat is floating slabs of ice close to the water, which teems with fish and seals.

## TOO HOT TO HANDLE?

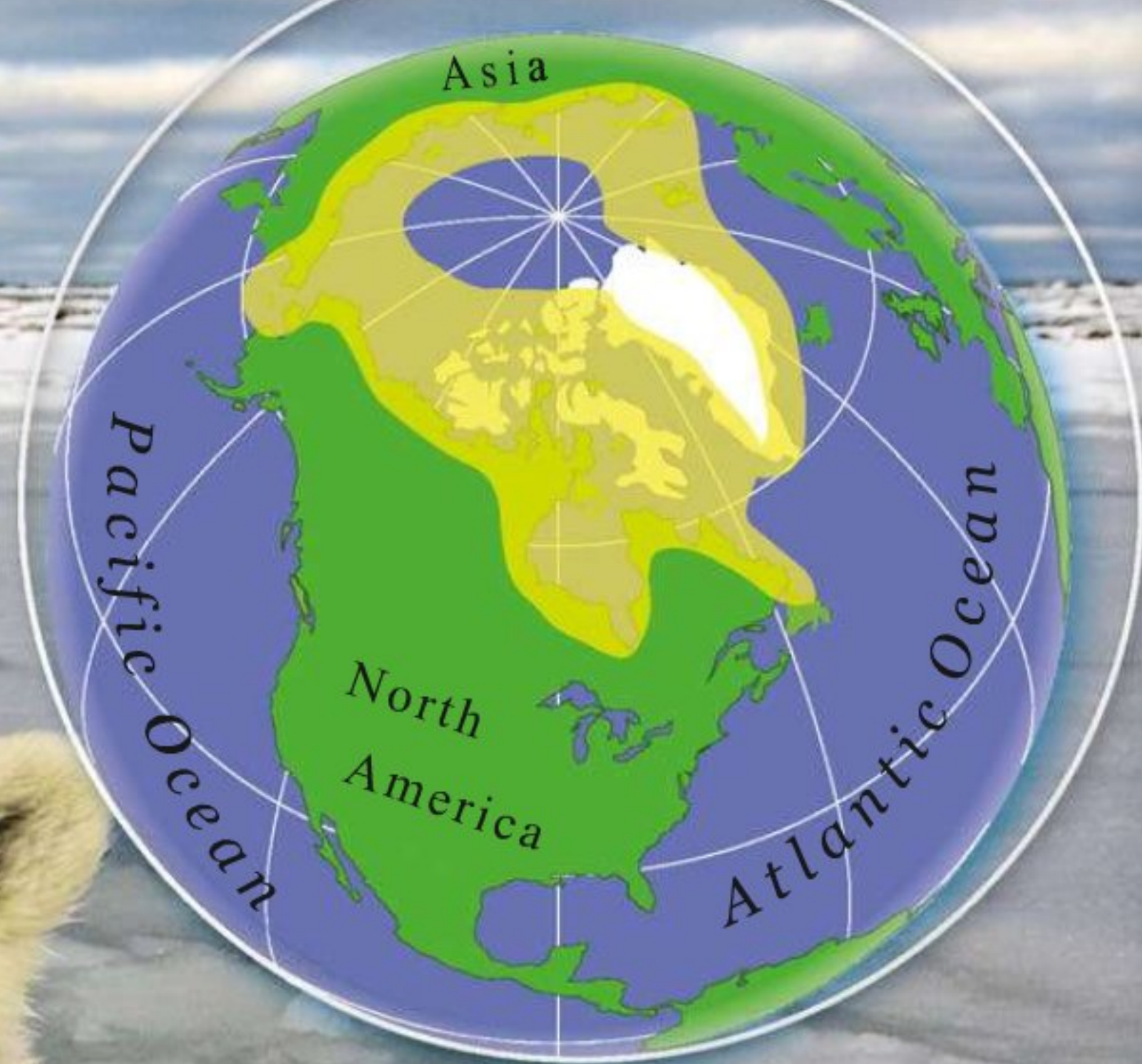
A polar bear's whole life is tied to the seasonal changes in Arctic sea ice. A bear can travel up to 4 800 kilometres a year. It moves from ice to land to ice again. But the ice is changing.

Scientists measuring Arctic temperatures have discovered an alarming trend. The Arctic is heating up. As it becomes warmer, pack ice melts earlier in the year. This gives the bears less time to hunt on the ice, forcing them onto land sooner. But hunting on land is hard work. A polar bear might need to stalk, or silently follow its prey for long distances. The bear must be careful not to overheat. This can be a tall order.

As Earth's largest land predator, a polar bear uses twice the energy to walk than most other mammals. Just 12 seconds of running can burn more energy than it would get from eating a whole seal! Stalking that seal for hours, or even days, can be exhausting.

A POLAR BEAR USES ITS LARGE, WEBBED PAWS TO SWIM.





## BEAR TERRITORY

■ Polar Bear Range

A POLAR BEAR POKES THROUGH ICE IN THE ARCTIC.



A POLAR BEAR CUB CLINGS TO ITS MOTHER.

### DANGEROUS ICE

The problem of an earlier melt goes beyond just having to hunt on land. As pack ice melts, the remaining ice is further from shore. Chunks of floating ice are also further apart. Now the gap of open water between the ice and the land is larger. Waves gush through the gaps, tossing ice about. Swimming from shore to pack ice becomes much more dangerous.

Normally, swimming long distances comes naturally to a polar bear. It can swim up to 100 kilometres to get to a hunting ground. And it's fast – swimming up to ten kilometres per hour to catch a fast-swimming seal. It can dive as deep as six metres to chase a seal.

Yet even this strong swimmer can tire. Rougher seas and greater distances between ice floes can prove too challenging for polar bears. With warmer temperatures a polar bear may set out for the next chunk of ice but not be able to make it safely back to shore.





“

**Polar bears** depend on thick  
sea ice **to hunt and breed.** ”

PAUL SOUDERS / CORBIS

#### **WATCHING AND WAITING**

Scientists are tracking the temperature in the Arctic closely. They have found that rising temperatures are causing the pack ice to melt an average of two weeks earlier than it did just 20 years ago.

That might not seem like a lot, but to a polar bear a few weeks makes a big difference. For each week the ice breaks earlier, the bears come ashore weighing nine kilograms less than they have in the past seasons.

Scientists measuring summer ice in 2010 reported a large melt by June, the beginning of summer in the Arctic. It continued to melt well into September, when it normally begins to freeze over.

Warmer weather is a disaster for polar bears. In some areas the bears already must eat enough food in only three or four months to last them for the rest of the year.

What does the future hold for polar bears? Scientists in the Polar Bear Specialist Group have been studying 19 groups of bears. Only one of these groups is bigger than during the previous study. It's a small hope that polar bears can adapt. The main threat is global warming. If we can reduce the warming, it will help the polar bear survive.



SEPTEMBER 2011 IS CLEAN-UP SA MONTH

# Clean-up & Recycle

Keep litter off our streets and out of our rivers, dams and oceans.

**12 – 17 September**

Clean-Up SA Week  
[www.cleanup-sa.co.za](http://www.cleanup-sa.co.za)

**16 September**

National Recycling Day  
[www.recyclingday-sa.co.za](http://www.recyclingday-sa.co.za)

**17 September**

International Coastal  
Clean-Up



I choose to  
clean-up & recycle.



5 x recycled PET bottles  
= 1 x T-shirt

Recycling  
1 ton of plastic  
bottles saves  
1 1/2 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

Picture frame made from  
recycled  
polystyrene

This frame  
is made of  
41 recycled  
hamburger  
clamshells

The Plastics Industry Taking Action.

Proudly supporting Clean Up  
South Africa month

**Plastics | SA**

**petCO**  
PET plastic recycling south africa

**Polystyrene**  
PACKAGING COUNCIL

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[douw.steyn@plasfed.co.za](mailto:douw.steyn@plasfed.co.za)

**FREE STATE**

Duart Hugo  
[hugod@detea.fs.gov.za](mailto:hugod@detea.fs.gov.za)

**KWAZULU NATAL – Coastal**

Wayne Munger  
[mungerw@kznwildlife.com](mailto:mungerw@kznwildlife.com)

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John Kieser  
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[www.plasticsinfo.co.za](http://www.plasticsinfo.co.za)



# AMUR TIGER

## Scientists teach an orphaned cub to fend for himself.

BY ALINE ALEXANDER NEWMAN

**L**ike a homeless kitten, a lone Amur tiger cub wanders aimlessly around an isolated village in southeastern Russia. Its scraggly, matted fur makes the little creature appear more ragged than cute. The February day is a wintery minus 15 degrees Celsius and a blanket of snow covers the ground. The lost, lonely cub is starving.

**AT ONLY TWELVE WEEKS**, this little tiger is much too young to know how to hunt. His mother is nowhere to be seen. He could not survive on his own.

Two wildlife experts find the cub huddled in a doghouse. They easily capture the cub, which is too weak to resist and take him to a veterinarian. On the examining table, the grubby kitty looks half dead. He's so scrawny his bones stick out. He has dried blood caked on his fur and he's covered with dog bites.

The vet washes the cub's wounds and gives him antibiotics to ward off infection. Afraid the cub might catch pneumonia, the vet puts him in an enclosure away from other animals. This "tiger isolation ward" has an exercise area and a comfy wooden den with a pile of sweet-smelling hay

where the tiger can relax.

The cub gets a high-calorie porridge rich with nutrients, which he eagerly devours. And the staff gives him a name: Oleg.

### OLEG GAINS WEIGHT.

To everyone's relief he's healthy. Now a difficult decision must be made: what should they do with him? Most rescued tigers end up in zoos, which have played a major role in preventing the species from becoming extinct.

But there are only about 350 Amur tigers living in the wild. Since Oleg was born free, Ian Robinson of the International Fund for Animal Welfare thinks he deserves to stay that way. "We believe wild animals belong in the wild," he says.

The trouble is that the big cats are dangerous predators, especially if they lose their fear of people. "The main goal with tigers like Oleg is keeping them wild," says Ian. "Rehabilitated ones might become problem animals that attack and kill livestock. Or humans." Even so, he believes Oleg can be rehabilitated – if it's done right.

**IAN FLIES** to Russia to evaluate the cub. "If he walked out and rubbed up against the bars of his pen when people are there, we couldn't let him go," he says. "But this one hides at the back of the cage with his ears flat against his head, spitting like an angry, wild kitten."

Ian is delighted with the animal's spunk. Oleg is moved into a specially built, tree-filled enclosure with plenty of room to roam.

Letting him go won't work, say some tiger experts. They think cubs learn to hunt by watching older tigers and that humans can't show them how it's done.

## Rescue



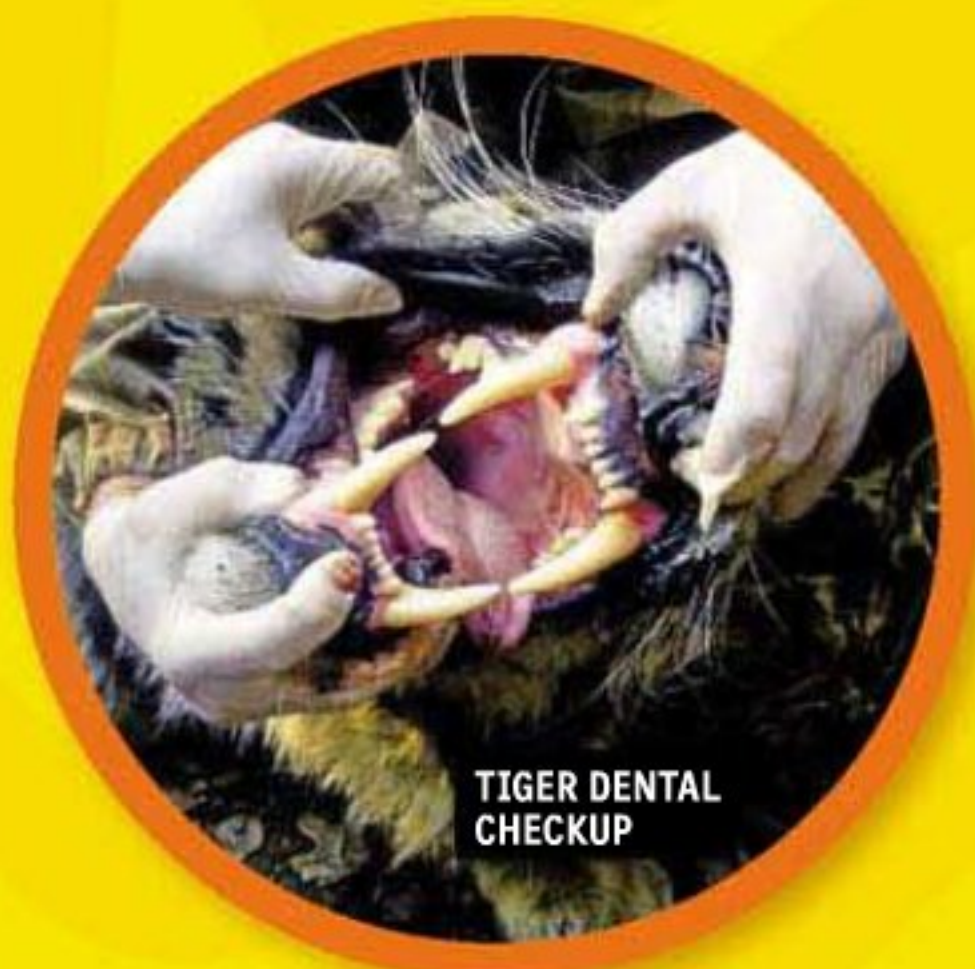
SHOWING A HEALTHY FEAR OF HUMANS

**IAN THINKS** otherwise. "Hunting is an instinct, not learned," he says. "Our job is getting Oleg strong for the chase." His plan moves forward. Oleg's caregivers establish two rules. No one is allowed near the tiger's pen and he is fed only natural prey from the forest – never lamb or beef. That way he won't develop a taste for farm animals. By September the tiger weighs a healthy 69 kilograms.

### IT'S TIME TO LET HIM GO.

Oleg is put into a transportation cage and driven to a forest in a wildlife reserve. A scientist opens the cage door by remote control. "The tiger came out like a rocket," says Ian. "He was gone!"

No one has seen Oleg since. But he wears a satellite radio collar and scientists monitor his movements. Ian bets that Oleg will stay healthy and wild. Then the experiment will prove a success. Scientists will release more tigers and the wild population will continue to grow.



TIGER DENTAL CHECKUP



# GER

le

I LOVE  
CHILLIN' WHILE  
I WAIT FOR MY  
NEXT MEAL TO  
WALK BY.

NG KIDS  
is on

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Add us as a  
contact and get  
more cool stories  
on your phone!



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**YOUNG**  
PHOTOGRAPHERS  
COMPETITION  
brought to you by *Spear*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

IT'S TIME TO ENTER  
THE SIXTH  
NG KIDS YOUNG  
PHOTOGRAPHERS  
COMPETITION!  
GET THOSE  
CAMERAS READY:  
YOU CAN  
WIN AWESOME  
PRIZES!

## WAYS TO ENTER:

1. Turn to page 24 for entry form.
2. E-mail and MMS your entries to: [ypc@ngkids.co.za](mailto:ypc@ngkids.co.za). Remember to write NG KIDS YPC in the subject line and include your photo title, category and age group.
3. Post your entry to: NG KIDS Young Photographers Competition, PO Box 2271, Cape Town 8001.
4. Visit the NG KIDS SA fan page on Facebook.
5. Deliver your entry to: NG KIDS, 8th floor, Media City, 1 Heerengracht, Cape Town

## WHAT TO DO:

- Take a picture of anything that catches your eye in one or more of the categories using a camera or a cell phone.
- You can enter up to four pictures (one for each category).
- You don't need a top-of-the-range camera to take a winning picture. It's more about looking at the world in a different way so that when you see something interesting or inspiring you're ready to go "click"!
- Entries open on 24 August and close on 15 November 2011.



## CATEGORIES:

**I love South Africa**

AMANDA WATT, 13, DURBAN  
TITLE: DURBAN BY NIGHT

SINÉAD WORTLEY, 11,  
JOHANNESBURG  
TITLE: BUSI FROM Ithemba Home

**That's Funny!**



ANDREW STONE, 11,  
JOHANNESBURG  
TITLE: MONKEYING AROUND

**People**

CHRISTEL BREMER, 13, UTRECHT  
TITLE: "STEEKHAAR"

**Animals**

A PANEL OF EXPERTS WILL JUDGE THE ENTRIES BASED ON CREATIVITY (50%) AND PHOTOGRAPH QUALITY (50%). THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL.





**WIN!**

**EACH OF THE 12 FINALISTS (THREE IN EACH CATEGORY) WILL WIN A R350 SPUR MEAL VOUCHER, A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION TO NG KIDS, A NIKON COOLPIX S3100 CAMERA AND A PAIR OF ACTION 8X40 BINOCULARS COURTESY OF NIKON!**

THIS IS WHERE YOU'LL STAY IF YOU WIN.



SANBONA WILDLIFE RESERVE

**OPEN TO ALL KIDS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 14.**

**TURN THE PAGE FOR OUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS WELL AS AN ENTRY FORM.**

**THE WINNER WILL ALSO BE ENTERED INTO THE INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2011 FOR KIDS AND COULD WIN A TRIP TO WASHINGTON IN AMERICA TO VISIT THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY!**



**BE QUICK! THE FIRST 30 ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A R100 VOUCHER FROM SPUR.**

## Grand prize:

The overall winner will get a fantastic Nikon D3100 camera and kit worth R6 500 AND a family holiday for four (two adults and two children up to the age of fifteen) courtesy of The Shamwari Group at Sanbona Wildlife Reserve. Only three hours from Cape Town, Sanbona boasts 54 000 hectares of undulating mountains and plains, indigenous flora and fauna, rock formations and rock art. The winner will enjoy three nights at the lodge including all meals, game drives and selected beverages. The holiday is worth R54 000. Visit [www.shamwarigroup.com](http://www.shamwarigroup.com). E-mail [reservations@sanbona.com](mailto:reservations@sanbona.com) or call 041-407-1000 for more information.



INTERNATIONAL  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
CONTEST 2011  
FOR KIDS

NG KIDS YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS  
COMPETITION IS PROUDLY  
SPONSORED BY SPUR.



Prizes sponsored by:

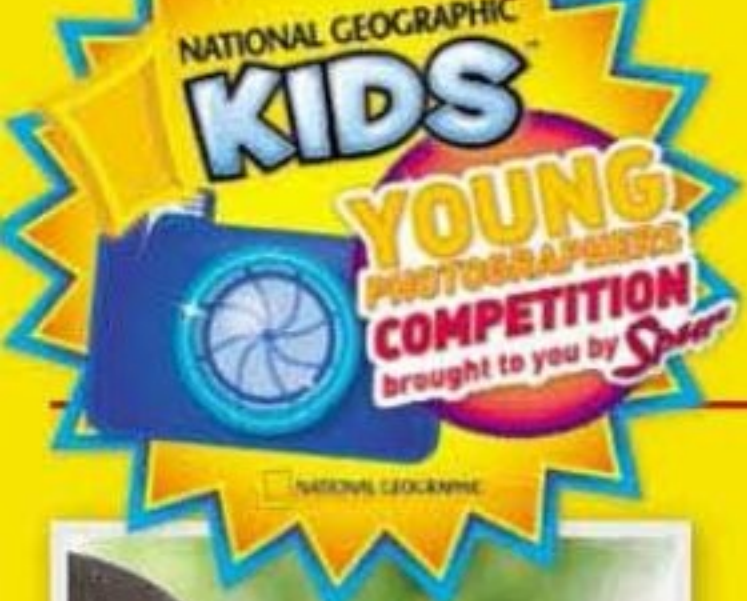
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SHAMWARI  
GROUP

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MORE NICE. LESS PRICE.





# NG KIDS YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS COMPETITION ENTRY FORM



**FULL NAME:**  **AGE:**  **BIRTH DATE:**

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS:**   
 **SCHOOL:**

**PHOTOGRAPH TITLE/S:**

**CATEGORIES:** (you can enter up to four pics) ☐ **ANIMALS**  
☐ **I LOVE SOUTH AFRICA**  
☐ **PEOPLE**  
☐ **THAT'S FUNNY**

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**  **HOME**  **GUARDIAN'S CELL**

**NAME OF GUARDIAN:**

This is my own original work and I give NG KIDS permission to publish and display my photographs. I agree that the photographs become the property of NG KIDS and that all rights are transferred to NG KIDS.

**SIGNATURE**

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. The competition opens on 24 August and closes on 15 November 2011.  
 2. It is open to all readers who are between six (6) and fourteen (14) years of age on 1 November 2011.  
 3. All photographs must be the entrant's own work.  
 4. Only one photograph for each category per entrant will be accepted.  
 5. All entries remain the property of NG KIDS and we regret that we cannot return any photographs or CDs.  
 6. Please supply a residential, rather than a P.O. Box address.  
 7. NG KIDS and the National Geographic Society retain the right to use all entry images in post-competition publicity throughout the world. We reserve the right to exhibit and reproduce photographs with a credit to the photographer. The winners have the right to decline to have their name advertised or listed publicly. In this instance NG Kids/NGS reserves the right to publish their photograph without credit and by entering into this competition they have accepted this.  
 8. The National Geographic Society and Media24 accept no responsibility for loss and damage.  
 9. Finalists will require a model release for any recognizable people in the photograph, if feasible; a location release for any private property in the photograph, if feasible; and a copyright license from any authors of works that appear in the photograph, if feasible.  
 10. The finalists and winner will be notified telephonically by mid January 2012

and their names will appear in the March 2011 issue of NG KIDS magazine.  
 11. MMS entries are charged at standard rates. Free minutes do not apply.  
 12. Prizes are non-exchangeable and no cash alternative will be offered.  
 13. Allow two months from winners announcement for delivery of prizes.  
 14. A panel of experts will judge the entries based on creativity (50%) and photograph quality (50%). The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.  
 15. Employees of Media24, sponsors and their agents or any company associated with the competition and their immediate families are not eligible to enter.  
 16. Photographs must have been taken within three years before date of entry.  
 17. Digital entries must be 5 megabytes or smaller and must be in jpeg format. A low res version can be sent as long as hi res is available for printing.  
 18. Originals must be available in print ready format.  
 19. Minor burning or colour correction, cropping and the use of a fish-eye lens is acceptable. Other digital manipulation other than the above is not acceptable and will render the photograph ineligible for entry into the competition.  
 20. Entrants living outside of South Africa accept that costs such as travel to South Africa and postage will be incurred in the event of winning a prize.  
 21. The first thirty entrants will receive a R100 voucher from

Spur.  
 22. Twelve finalists will each win a Spur meal voucher, a year's subscription to NG KIDS, a Nikon Coolpix S3100 camera and a pair of Nikon Action 8x40 binoculars.  
 23. The overall winner will receive a Nikon D3100 camera and kit worth R6 500 and a family holiday for four to Sanbona Wildlife Reserve, courtesy of the Shamwari Group.  
 24. The Sanbona Wildlife Reserve prize includes flights, transfers and three nights' accommodation at Gondwana Family Lodge, meals, selected beverages and all game drives for two adults and two children up to the age of fifteen and must be taken within six months of the winner being notified. Extras such as beverages (those not included in the prize), telephone, laundry, curios, gratuities and other additional expenses are not included. Airport taxes will be for the winner's account. Persons under the age of 16 are not allowed on walking safaris.  
 25. The entrant accepts that entry to the competition does not constitute a contract or any form of legal commitment between the entrant and NG KIDS.  
 26. NG KIDS/Media24 or the National Geographic Society shall not assume liability for any ambiguity, error, oversight or omission whether negligent or otherwise which may be committed by any employee of NG KIDS, their agents or associates in respect of this competition.  
 27. Entry signifies acceptance of the rules. For full terms and conditions refer to [www.ngkids.co.za](http://www.ngkids.co.za).

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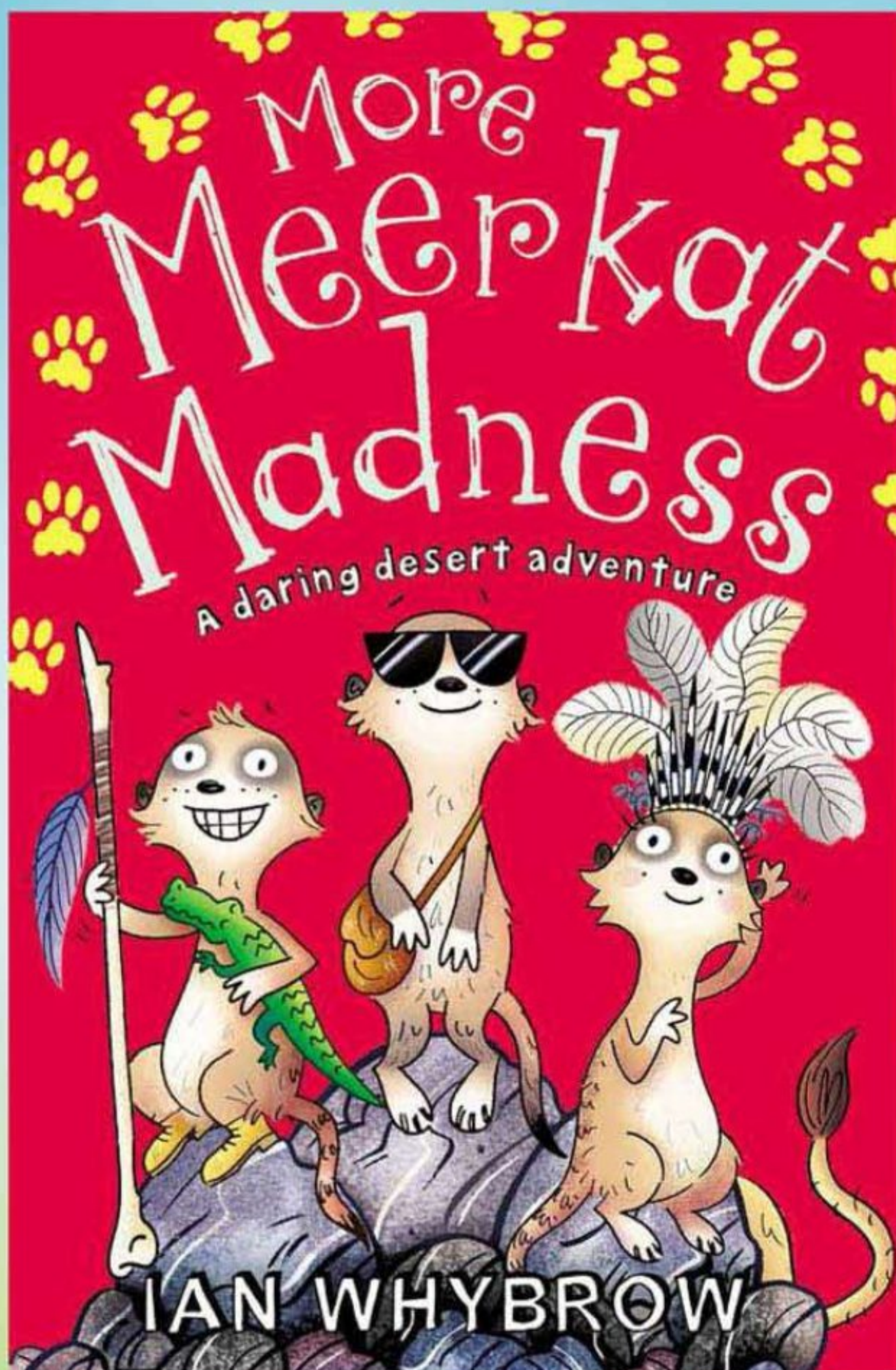
### READER'S DETAILS:

To: Name  Surname   
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 Birth date   
 Age

**SIGNATURE**

\*Ask an adult's permission first! SMSs cost R1. Free SMSs don't apply. This offer is open to the first 250 subscribers. Offer valid until 20 September 2011. We reserve the right to replace the featured gift with one of equal value. Offer is open to SA addresses only. Please call 021-405-1905 for international rates.

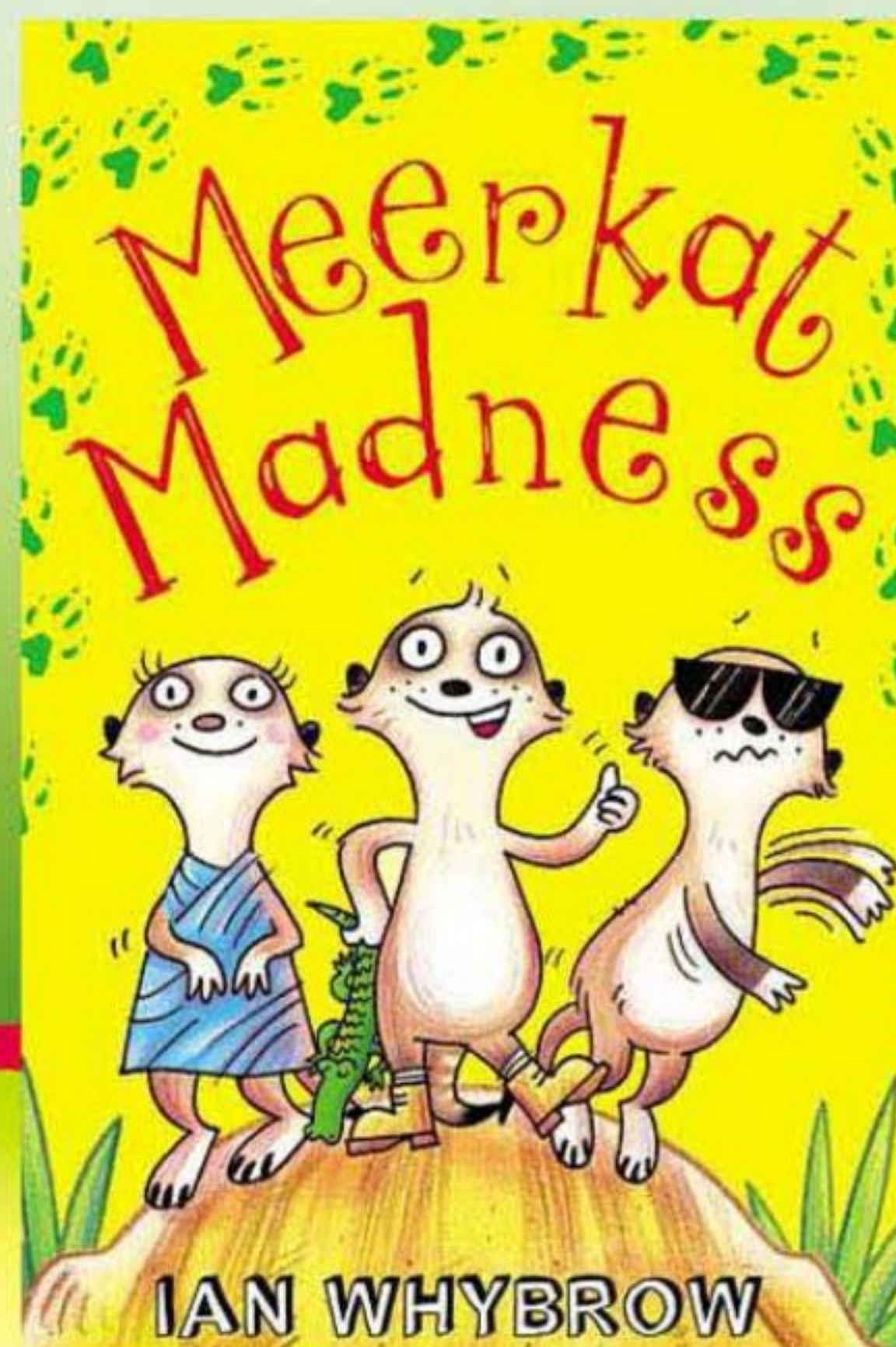




# More Meerkat Madness

More hilarious adventures featuring Uncle Fearless, Skeema, Mimi and Little Dream—the all-star cast of **Meerkat Madness**.

Now available  
in all good  
bookstores.



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# SPRINGBOKS IN NEW ZEALAND

THE SPRINGBOKS WILL BE COMPETING AGAINST 19 OTHER TEAMS AT THE RUGBY WORLD CUP IN NEW ZEALAND. RECORD THE SCORES FOR THEIR GAMES IN POOL D AND HOPEFULLY THE WHOLE WAY THROUGH TO THE FINAL!

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Bakkies Botha is 2,2 metres tall!

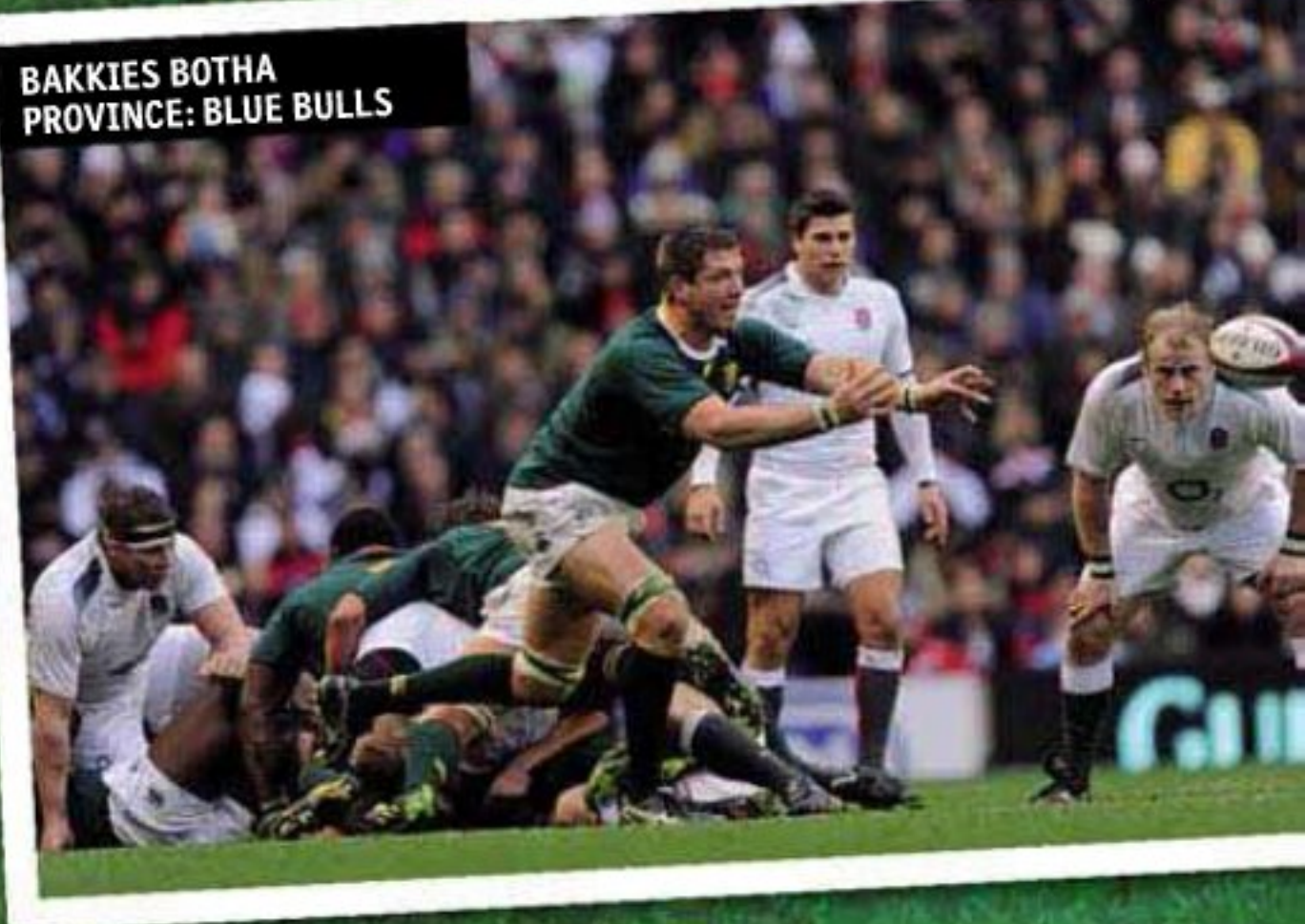
## Six cool facts NEW ZEALAND

- Wherever you live in New Zealand you are only an hour away from the ocean.
- Wellington where the Boks will play their first game is the capital of New Zealand.
- It is situated about 900 kilometres east of Australia across the Tasman Sea.
- English, Maori, and New Zealand sign language are the official languages.
- New Zealand is made up of two main islands called North Island and South Island.
- It has a very long coastline. At just over 15 000 kilometres, this is five times as long as South Africa's coastline.

MAP OF NEW ZEALAND



BAKKIES BOTHA  
PROVINCE: BLUE BULLS



## POOL D MATCHES:

The Springboks are in Pool D with teams from Fiji, Namibia, Wales and Samoa. New Zealand is in a different time zone. Match times are for South Africa.

## QUARTER

SCORE	 <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>VS</b>	 <b>WALES</b>	SCORE	SCORE	TEAM	<b>V</b> Saturday, 11 September in Wellington
SCORE	 <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>VS</b>	 <b>FIJI</b>	SCORE	SCORE	TEAM	<b>V</b> Saturday, 17 September Auckland
SCORE	 <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>VS</b>	 <b>NAMIBIA</b>	SCORE	SCORE	TEAM	<b>V</b> Sunday, 22 September in Wellington
SCORE	 <b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>VS</b>	 <b>SAMOA</b>	SCORE	SCORE	TEAM	<b>V</b> Sunday, 30 September Auckland





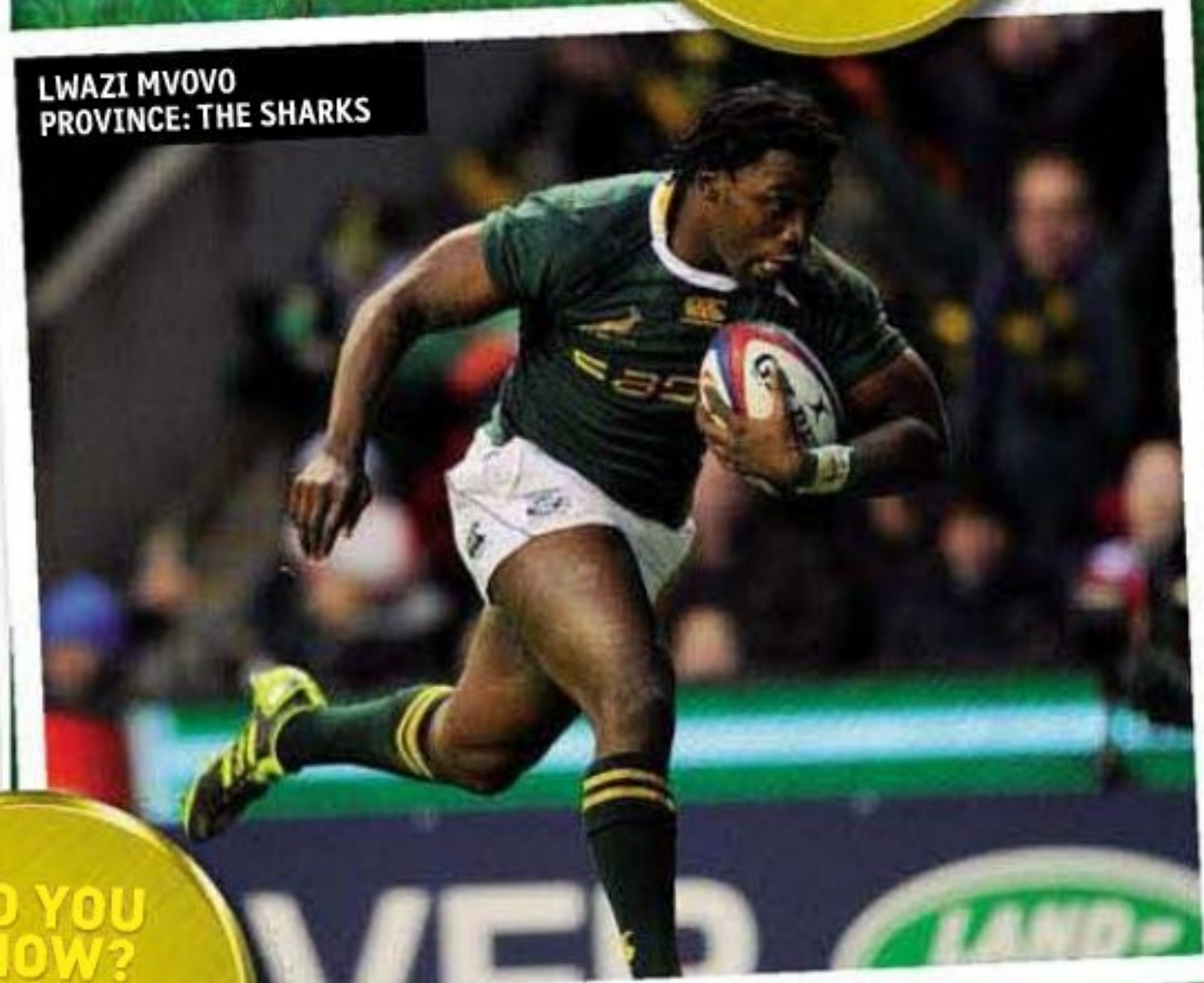
PROVINCE: BLUE BULLS



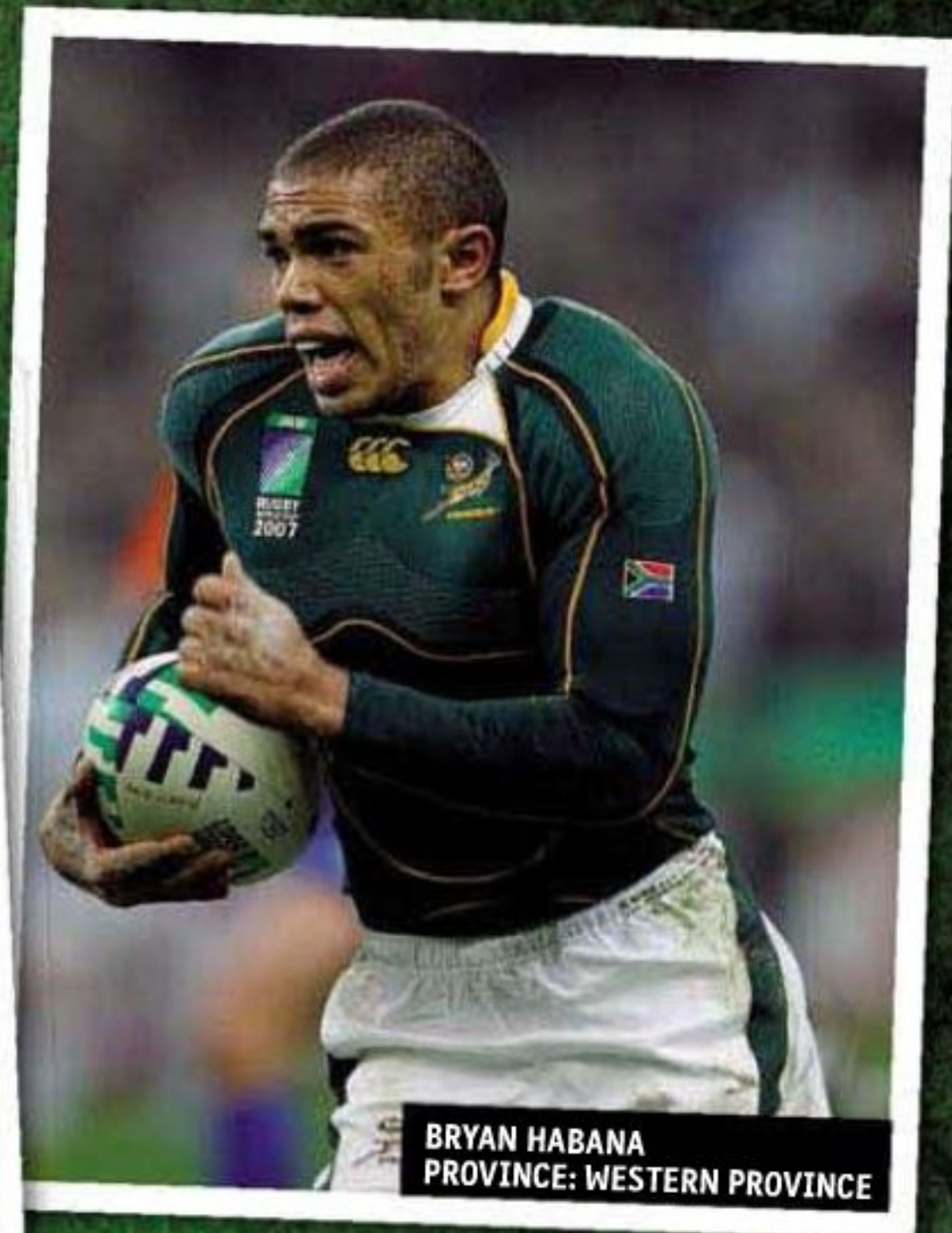
ELTON JANTJIES  
PROVINCE: GOLDEN LIONS



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Bryan Habana is so fast, he got the nickname "Jet shoes".



LWAZI MVOVO  
PROVINCE: THE SHARKS



BRYAN HABANA  
PROVINCE: WESTERN PROVINCE



**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The Springboks played their first test against the All Blacks in 1921.

## SEMI-FINALS:

**VS**

8 October  
at 7 am

TEAM

SCORE

**VS**

8 October in  
at 9:30 am

TEAM

SCORE

**VS**

9 October  
at 7 am

TEAM

SCORE

**VS**

9 October in  
at 9:30 am

TEAM

SCORE

SCORE

**VS**

Saturday, 15 October  
in Auckland at 10 am

TEAM

SCORE

SCORE

**VS**

Sunday, 16 October  
in Auckland at 10 am

TEAM

SCORE

## BRONZE FINAL:

SCORE

**VS**

Friday, 21 October in  
Auckland at 9.30 am

TEAM

SCORE

## FINAL:

SCORE

**VS**

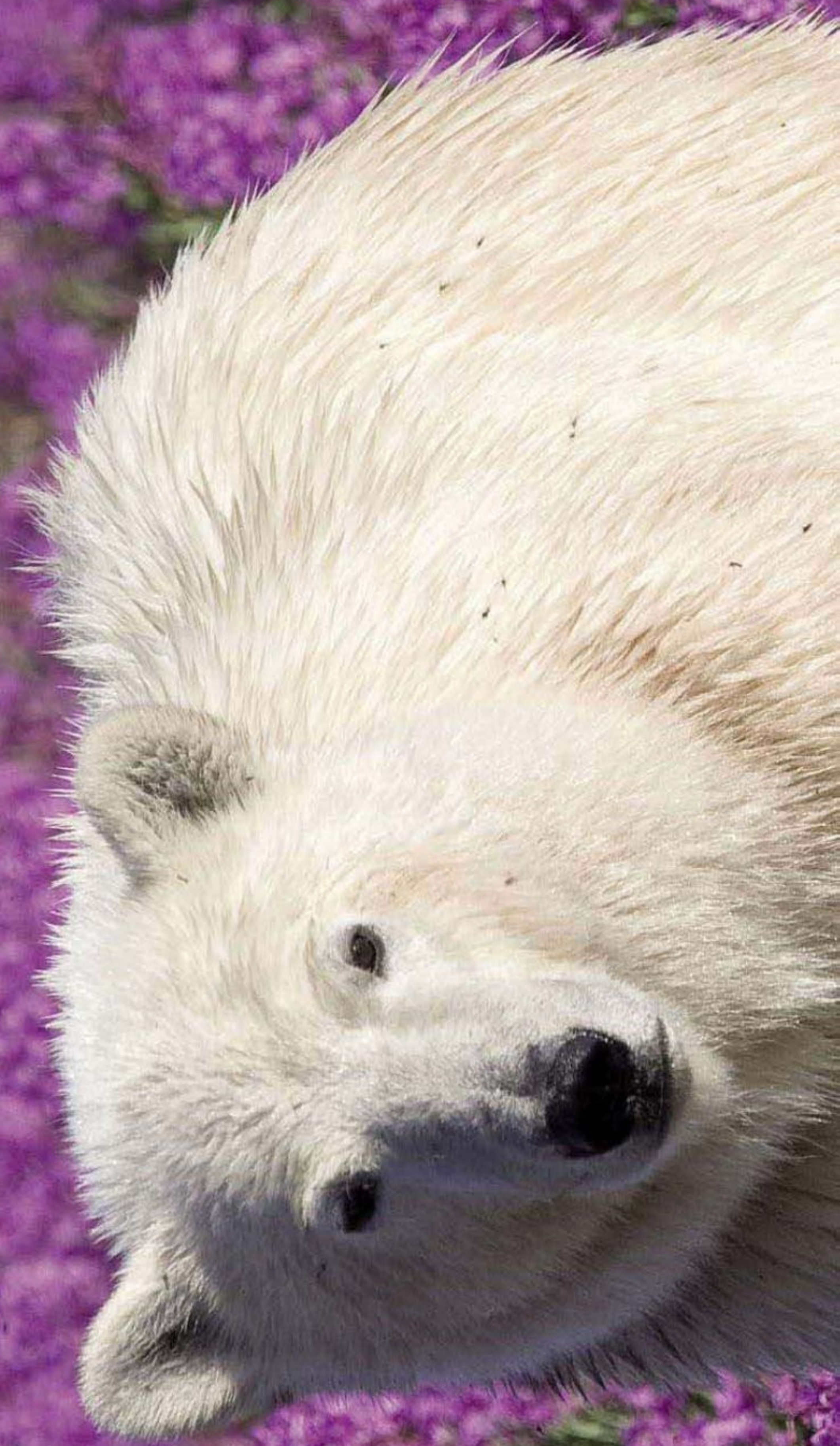
Sunday, 23 October  
in Auckland at 10 am

TEAM

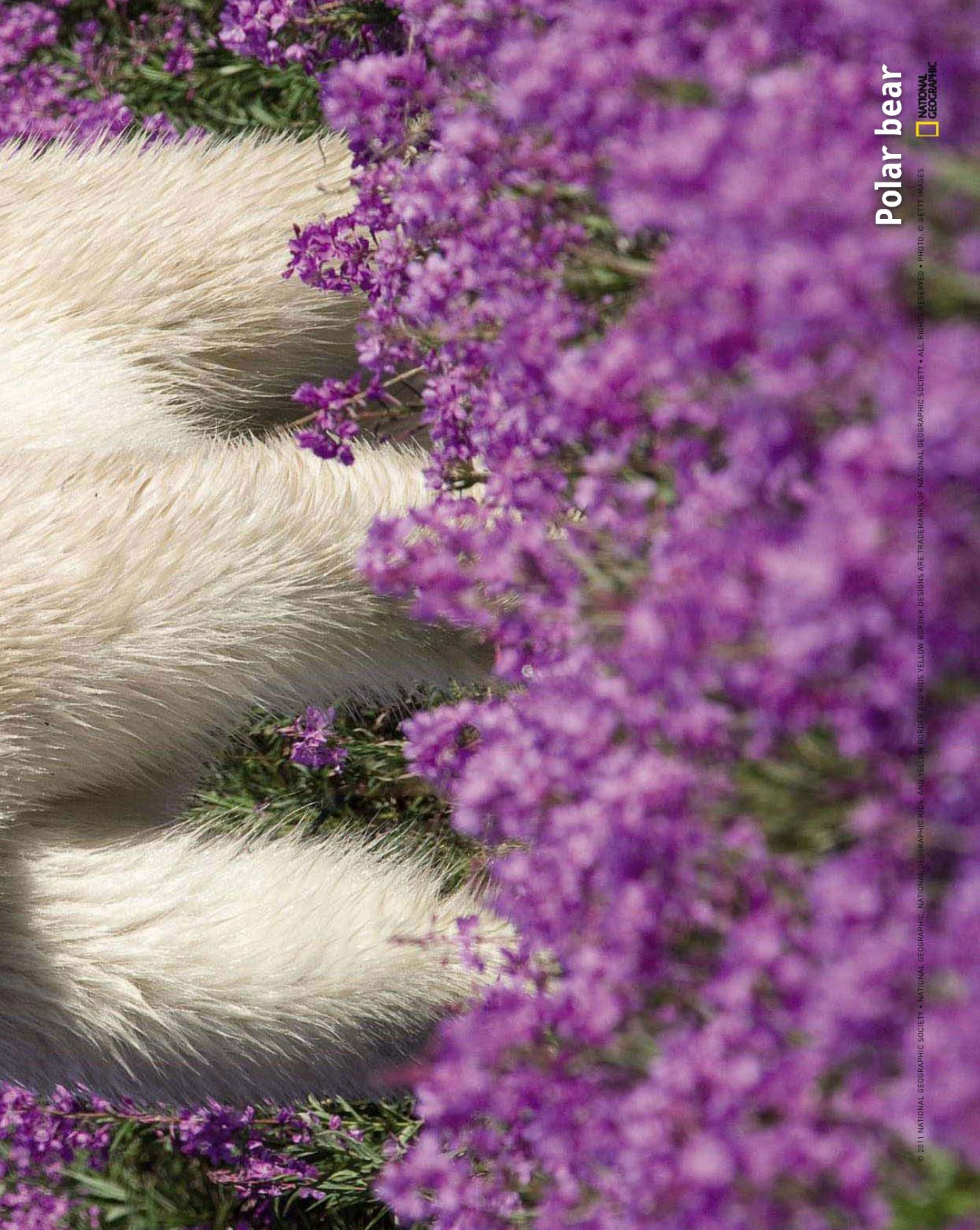
SCORE

\*The players on this page are named as part of the Rugby World Cup Preliminary Squad. The final squad could include other players.









# Polar bear

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I'M  
TOUGHER  
THAN I  
LOOK!

Sea otters  
are related to  
skunks,  
weasels,  
badgers and  
river  
otters.

“They are extraordinarily  
tough animals.”



# SEA OTTERS:

## *Supercute, Supertough*

These fuzz balls have incredible survival skills.

BY RUTH A. MUSGRAVE

**B**ursting from the depths of frigid Alaskan waters, a sea otter holds her prize: a lifeless giant Pacific octopus. She quickly rolls onto her back to use her stomach as a table. The enormous octopus drapes over her body like an oversized tablecloth. As astonished researchers watch the otter devouring the feast, they can only imagine the epic battle that must have occurred under the water. "I've never seen an otter bring up such large prey, but it's not surprising," says marine biologist Chris Marshall. "They're extraordinarily tough animals."

A sea otter may look like a cute, gentle ball of fur, but they are rugged, resilient, wiry predators that battle prey,

the environment and other otters every day. In fact, most humans couldn't do what otters do. Here's why they deserve a reputation as the tough guys of the ocean.

### SEA SURVIVOR

A sea otter is about the same size as an 11-year-old kid – but

it's a whole lot tougher. Otters spend nearly their entire lives just beyond the breaking waves. Whether it's stormy or calm, winter or summer, they eat, sleep, fight, mate and give birth on the surface of the sea.

Otters  
live within  
800 metres of the  
shore  
and stay within a  
three-kilometre  
area year round.

Sea otters  
are found along  
the coast  
of the  
North Pacific  
Ocean in North  
America and Asia.







Only a **female** and her pups will hunt in groups or share food.

DIVING FOR DINNER

An otter has as many as **one million** hairs in **one square centimetre** of skin.

People would be lucky to last 20 minutes in an otter's home before hypothermia – a deadly drop in body temperature – sets in and their bodies shut down. That's because you lose body heat 25 times faster in the water than in the air. Other marine mammals such as whales and walruses have blubber – a thick layer of fat – to keep them warm. Sea otters don't. They rarely, if ever, climb out of the water. So how do they survive?

## ULTIMATE FUR COAT

A sea otter wears a luxurious fur coat. You have about 100 000 hairs on your entire head. An otter has about 800 *million* hairs on its body. The fur is the otter's shield from the sea. Only the outer layer – the tips of the hairs – gets wet. The thick coat and natural oils keep the skin and underfur dry. Air trapped between the fur and skin keeps an otter insulated

from the icy water.

If the fur gets dirty or damaged and its skin gets wet, an otter can die quickly of hypothermia. Because its fur is the only thing protecting a sea otter from the heat-stealing ocean water, the marine mammal spends nearly half of its day cleaning, combing, and fluffing its coat.

## FEEDING FRENZY

To stay warm, an otter also relies on a fast metabolism. This internal furnace is always set on extra hot. To fuel that furnace and because an otter doesn't store fat to turn into energy, it must eat massive amounts of food every day. Their prey includes sea urchins, crabs, octopuses and fish as well as shellfish such as abalones, mussels and clams.

"Otters are ravenous eaters," says marine biologist Lori Timm. "To survive, an average adult sea otter needs to eat 6 750 calories a day. That's three times more calories than a kid needs!"

A daily menu might be seven abalone, 37 cancer crabs, 50 sea urchins, or 157 kelp crabs – or some similar combination of prey. That's equal in calories to 28 hot dogs with buns, 42 scoops of chocolate ice cream, 127 apples or almost 2 000 small sweets.

Having to eat 2 000 sweets might sound good, but what if you had to make 2 000

An otter eats **20 to 30 percent** of its **body weight** a day – that's **six to eight kilograms** of food.

RELAXING BETWEEN MEALS



ENJOYING A  
TASTY SNACK.

An otter's  
tail is about  
one-quarter  
the length  
of its body.



Otters have  
nostrils and  
ears that close  
in the water.

dives to do it? Otters eat at the surface and often eat only one thing at a time. To eat 150 kelp crabs, the otter needs to make at least 150 dives. And it takes about six dives to pry just one abalone from a rock.

## SUPER STRENGTH

Using tools such as rocks to crack open shells is all the rage with otters in California, but it isn't always necessary. That's because sea otters are like superheroes when it comes to strength. Alaskan sea otters crack open dinner with their teeth! A hard clam or mussel shell is no match for an otter's powerful jaws and strong teeth.

A person would have to make several dives, use a special sharp tool and have lots of luck to pry a firmly anchored abalone from its rock. An otter has only its paws and an occasional rock. The otter also uses its strong paws to snatch and overpower large crabs while avoiding their dangerous claws.

Superswimmers, supereaters, superdivers – sea otters definitely deserve their reputation as supertough marine mammals.

Male northern  
sea otters  
weigh up to  
45 kilograms.  
Large females weigh  
up to  
32 kilograms.



CATCHING A  
RIDE ON MUM



# A BREAKFAST

BY JULIKA KENNAWAY AND ANDREW COOK

If you'd like a change from oats or eggs in the morning, take a look at what other kids eat in different countries.

## BALI

### PISANG GORENG (FRIED BANANAS)

Bali is a tropical island in Indonesia. It is known for its friendly people and is a popular tourist destination.

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- 4 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt
- 3 bananas
- 50 grams palm sugar (from coconut palm tree sap)
- Cinnamon -  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 1 teaspoon
- Water or 1 egg

#### HOW TO MAKE IT:

1. Mix the flour, sugar and salt in a bowl. Add one banana and mash it into the mixture.
2. Pour some water (or one egg) into the mixture and mix it in (it should be quite wet!)
3. Slice the other bananas into halves (ask a parent to slice for you).
4. Heat lots of oil (not olive oil) in a wok or big pan.
5. Dip your sliced banana into your flour and banana mixture. Make sure it's well covered with the mixture.
6. Carefully place the dipped banana pieces into the hot oil (ask your parent to help). Let the bananas sizzle in the oil until they're crispy brown.

#### TO MAKE THE SYRUP

Heat the palm sugar and cinnamon in a small pan with a little water, so it's a thick but runny mixture. Use low heat and keep stirring!

When the bananas are ready to serve, pour the palm sugar and cinnamon syrup over the top.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

For breakfast, kids in Indonesia also eat *nasi goreng* (fried rice with vegetables, fish, meat or tofu and a fried egg on top), *bubur injin* (black rice pudding made with black rice and coconut) or *ketela pohon* (tapioca with coconut)

NITA ANGGRA DYANTI, (12) DECORATED HER FRIED BANANA WITH FRANGIPANI AND HIBISCUS FLOWERS. SHE CUT THE BANANA LEAF INTO THE SHAPE OF A SUN.





# FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## DID YOU KNOW?

For breakfast, kids in the Congo also eat cooked cassava with peanuts, pap or porridge made from sorghum or corn, or a thick stew made with baby marrow.

### HOW TO MAKE IT:

1. Wash and peel the potato and cut into small pieces.
2. Put the potato into a saucepan. Add a little water, just covering the bottom. Add a pinch of salt.
3. Cover with a lid and heat until tender (about 15 to 20 minutes).
4. Take off heat and mash the potato.

### TO PREPARE THE PEANUTS

Fry the peanuts in a saucepan and stir until they are slightly brown. Don't use oil. Let them cool a little. Pound the nuts in a mixer or with a pestle and mortar.

Add the nut paste to the mashed potatoes. Put it in a bowl—you can add some honey or a banana. Eat it warm.

### WHAT YOU NEED

- Sweet potato (one each depending on size)
- Peanuts with skins— $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or 1 tablespoon
- Peanut butter
- Pinch of salt

## DRC

### SWEET POTATOES WITH GROUND PEANUTS

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is situated in central Africa on the Equator. The DRC is famous for its gorillas and chimpanzees, the Congo river (the second longest river in Africa) and tropical rainforest.

KETSIA KASONGO LENGE (12) LIVES IN CAPE TOWN BUT ENJOYS A TRADITIONAL BREAKFAST.



## FRANCE

### BAGUETTE WITH BUTTER AND JAM, DIPPED INTO HOT CHOCOLATE

France is famous for its Eiffel Tower, fashion and food!

### HOW TO MAKE IT:

1. Heat two cups of milk in a saucepan.
2. Add four teaspoons of drinking chocolate.
3. When it's hot (not boiling), pour into a bowl.
4. Slice some baguette and spread with butter and your favourite French jam.

Drink your hot chocolate from a bowl and dip in your baguette.

## DID YOU KNOW?

As a treat kids also eat croissants or "pain au chocolat"—a bit like croissants with chocolate in the middle!

### WHAT YOU NEED

- Baguette
- Butter
- Jam
- Drinking Chocolate powder milk



LUCIE WHITELOCK (8) ENJOYING HER FRENCH BREAKFAST.



# INDIA

## MANGO LASSI WITH DOSAS AND CHUTNEY

India is a huge country with 1.2 billion people. The Himalayan region in the North has some of the highest mountains in the world. Some of India's famous protected areas are in South India like the Project Tiger reserves set up to protect one of India's most endangered animals.

BREAKFAST IN INDIA  
SOMETIMES INCLUDES  
CHUTNEYS OR CURRY.



## DID YOU KNOW?

There is great variety in Indian cuisine and popular breakfast foods vary from region to region. Eggs scrambled with spices, potatoes and onions are popular in the morning, as are fresh fruits and yogurt.

## WHAT YOU NEED

- one ripe mango
- one cup yoghurt
- 1/2 cup milk
- three teaspoons sugar
- some ground cardamom (an Indian spice)

## HOW TO MAKE MANGO LASSI:

1. Peel the mango and cut it into pieces. Throw the pip away. Then chill the mango, milk and yoghurt in the fridge or freezer. A Lassi is nicer cold.
2. Now put the mango, yoghurt, milk and sugar into your blender and blend them for two minutes.
3. When your lassi is smooth and a little bubbly on the top, pour it into a tall glass, sprinkle with a little ground cardamom and pop in a straw. It's ready! Some kids in South India prefer a salt lassi to a sweet lassi. If you want to try this, use 1/2 teaspoon of salt in your lassi instead of the sugar. (Some people also leave out the mango.)

## TO MAKE DOSAS

Mix the dosa flour with water to make a thin batter. Heat the pan. Pour in a little dosa batter and cook a thin, crispy pancake. While it's still warm, roll the pancake up and eat it with coconut chutney or tomato sauce. Do it again!

## WHAT YOU NEED

- water
- dosa flour or Dosa Mix (You can get this from your local Indian food shop.)



## South Indian facts:

- Many people in South India speak Tamil. Practice this: Vanakkam! It means "hello" in Tamil.
- Dosas taste great with coconut chutney. In fact, a lot of South Indian food has coconut in it. That means South Indians have to practice climbing tall coconut palms a lot. It's scary.
- South India is not a country – it's only the southern part of India. People have been living in South India since 8 000 BC. Today, more than 230 million people live there.
- You get tigers in South India. Tigers are beautiful but they are a rare and endangered species. The Nagarjunsagar Wildlife Sanctuary is one important tiger reserve in South India.
- Did you know that most South Indian people prefer to eat all of their meals using their hands (and not knives or forks)? Try it sometime. It's not easy, but it's fun!



ANDREW COOK (INDIA)



# Let's Jump!

**HELP NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS SET A GUINNESS WORLD RECORD!**

Take part in the week of **10 October 2011** to set the record for the **most people** doing Jumping Jacks in **24 hours**.

Can exercise be fun? Of course, especially when you're setting a Guinness World Record while you are breaking a sweat! Join NG KIDS readers around the world who will be doing Jumping Jacks for one minute.

## WHAT TO DO

- Check out the rules first! For official record rules, registration details, games and more, go online to: [kids.nationalgeographic.com/lets-jump](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/lets-jump).
- Prepare for the jumping. Practise doing your Jumping Jacks for one minute.
- The attempt will take place during the week of 10 October 2011. Check the website for more details closer to the time.
- On the Guinness World Record day you can do the one minute of Jumping Jacks on your own, with a bunch of friends or your entire school.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The White House has a swimming pool, a tennis court, a jogging track and a bowling alley.

A group of NG KIDS SA readers doing Jumping Jacks on Table Mountain.



The White House in Washington D.C, America.

**LET'S MOVE!**

The event kicks off in Washington D.C, America with First Lady Michelle Obama doing Jumping Jacks at the White House.



# COOL inventions

BY CATHY LU

## UNDERWATER SCOOTER

Explore an underwater cave, follow a school of clown fish or look a dolphin in the eye. With the HydroBOB you can putter around the ocean depths without a mask, flippers or mouthpiece. Just dive into the water, pop your head inside the bubble helmet and swing your leg over the seat. Use the handlebars to steer left and right, press a button to keep the vehicle moving and use its air bag to control depth. The clear dome allows you to breathe underwater for an hour (thanks to an onboard air tank) and gives you a 180-degree view of your surroundings – from that friendly turtle on your left to the dark, darting shadow on your right. Uh-oh, maybe it's time to scoot.

## FRIDGE OF THE FUTURE

HELP YOURSELF!

You are hungry and head for the refrigerator. Reaching into the green goo, you pull out some fresh cheese. The Bio Robot concept fridge uses a green gel to store and cool food. The gel is spongy enough for you to swap items in and out, but solid enough that it doesn't cling to your food. To put the cheese back in the fridge, find an open spot and push it into the gel. The gel moulds itself around the cheese as tiny "computers" figure out what it is. The computers then adjust the temperature of the gel to keep the cheese fresh. Everything is easy to see, so you no longer need to worry about forgotten food turning into science projects.

## TRICKY TRIPOD

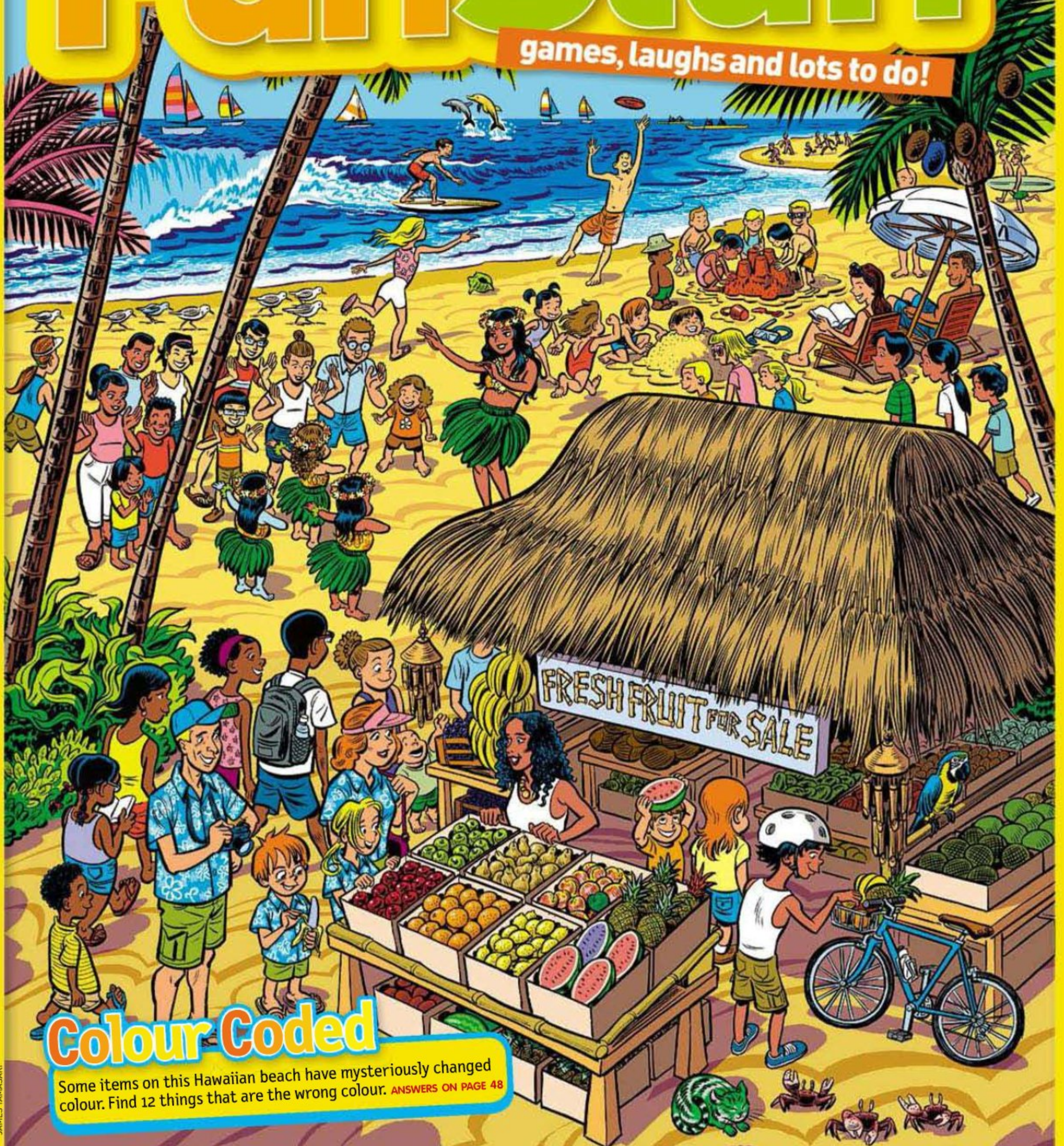
From a shot of you grinding the rails at the skate park to evidence that your brother's been sneaking ice cream from the freezer, the Gorillapod lets you take pictures and videos like never before. This flexible tripod holds small cameras. Its twelve-centimetre-long legs are bendable, so they can be secured to unusual places. The Gorillapod also has magnets for feet, so it can be attached to magnetic surfaces. Want to catch your kid brother in action? Stick the Gorillapod to the fridge, turn on the video camera, and wait for his next food raid. Busted, bro!

IT'S FLEXIBLE!



# Fun Stuff

games, laughs and lots to do!



## Colour Coded

Some items on this Hawaiian beach have mysteriously changed colour. Find 12 things that are the wrong colour. **ANSWERS ON PAGE 48**



# What in the World?

## GREEN THINGS

These photographs show close-up and faraway views of green things. Unscramble the letters to identify each picture. Let's go green!

ANSWERS ON PAGE 48



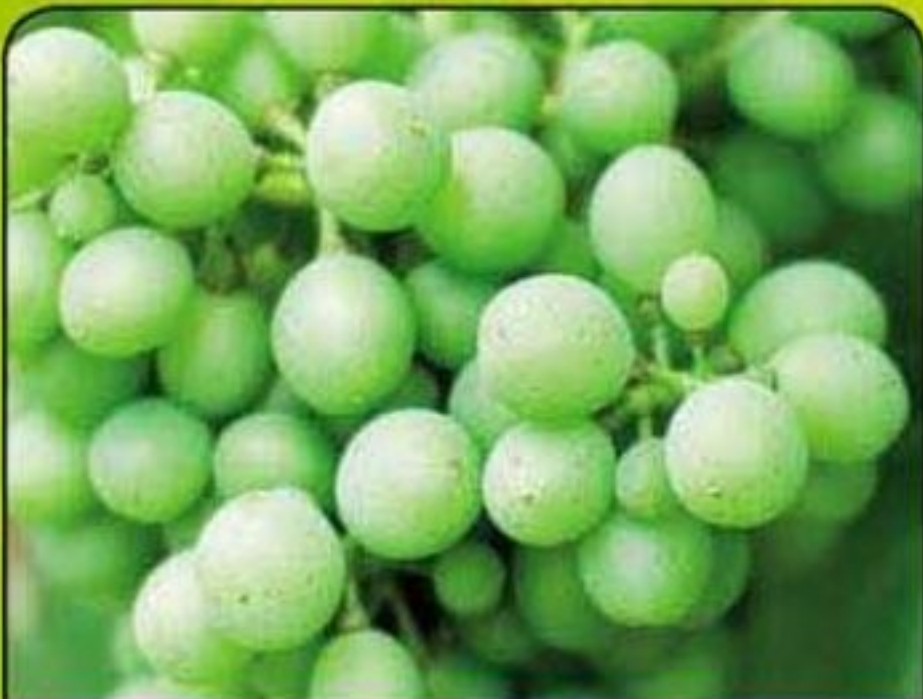
AMECHLEON



TFFICRA LTIGH



ARGDEN HEOS



RAGPES



EALF



ROFG



PLEAPS



CROLIOBC

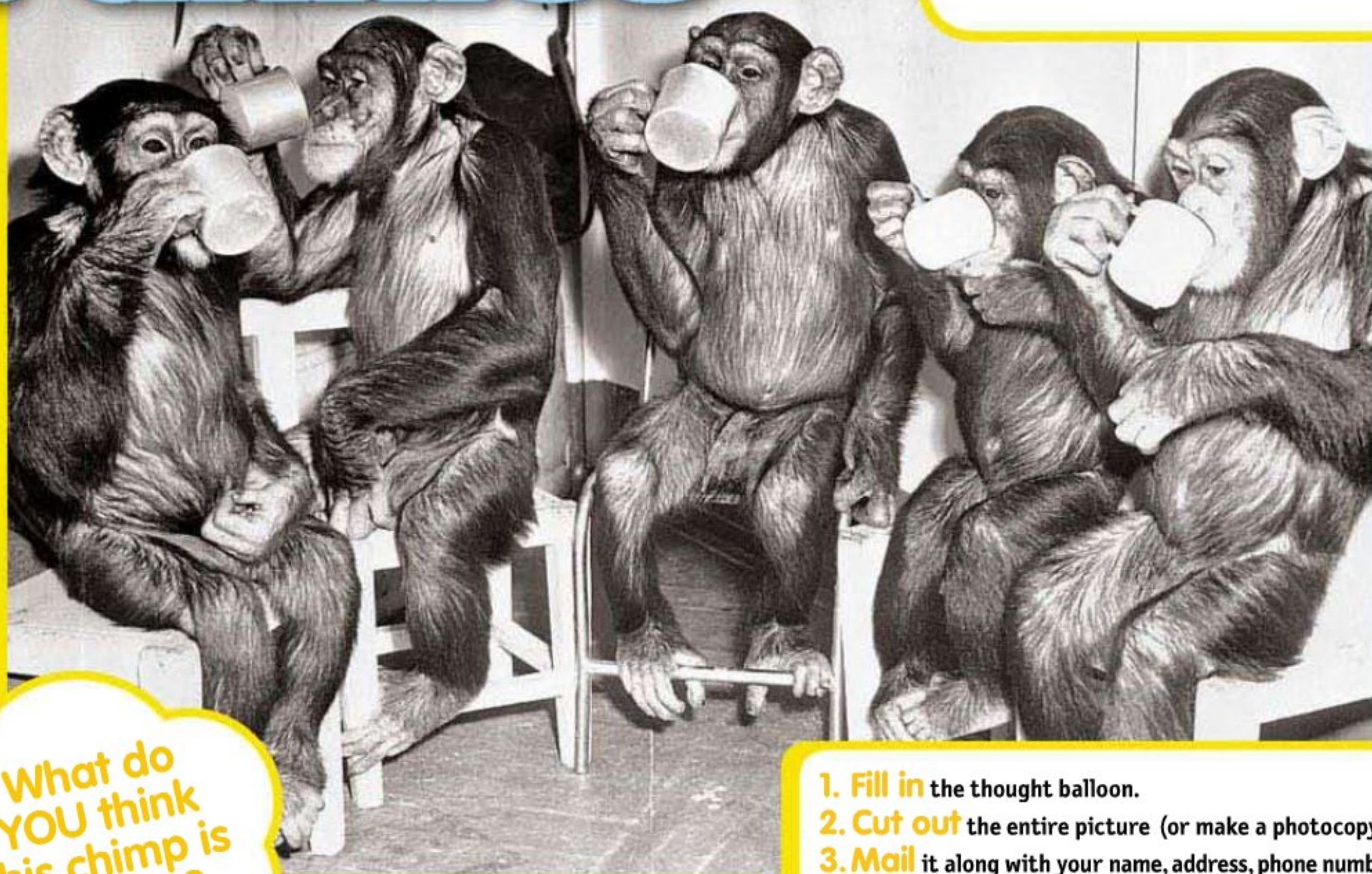


UMBOSGOT



# Photo Funnies

Do we get  
free refills?



What do  
YOU think  
this chimp is  
thinking?

1. **Fill in** the thought balloon.
2. **Cut out** the entire picture (or make a photocopy of it).
3. **Mail** it along with your name, address, phone number and date of birth to NG KIDS Photo Funnies, PO Box 2271, Cape Town 8000. Selection for publication in a future issue will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.



## From the June Issue

**I'll talk, Eddie, you dial, Bob, you listen and Frankie ... go find a plug for this thing!**

Vasilis Michaelides, 12,  
Klerksdorp

**Why did giraffe have to steal our Blackberry?**

Gaby Rautenbach, 13,  
Pinetown

**This is one big banana ... the banana is speaking!**

Justin Philpott, 11,  
East London

**Halooo? Lion, is that you?**

Cindy Louw, 10  
Johannesburg

**It's hard to make small talk on a big phone like this!**

Cameron Vermaak, 13,  
Cape Town

**Elephants never forget ... to phone back.**

Jacob Thomas, 12,  
Potchefstroom

**Who needs a Blackberry when you can have a yellow banana?**

Nia le Roux, 11,  
Franschoek

**A big phone for big ears!**

Emma Smit, 11,  
George



# FUN factory



## WATCH LIST

### SHARPAY'S FABULOUS ADVENTURE

DStv Disney Channel 303

Our favourite diva, Sharpay Evans from *High School Musical* is back! This time, she is on her own adventure! After a talent scout spots her performing with her dog Boi, Sharpay sets off for the bright lights of New York City, ready to be super famous! Soon Sharpay has a reality check when she meets the devious owner of a pampered dog named Countess and a scheming Broadway teen who will do anything to be the best! Fortunately Sharpay also meets a handsome student filmmaker called Peyton, who finds her fascinating ...

Sharpay's Fabulous Adventure premieres on Disney Channel (DStv Channel 303) at 10.30 am on Saturday 10 September 2011.



### Pokémon TCG: Black & White Collectors Cards

In the Pokémon Trading Card Game, you choose from among hundreds of different Pokémon, supportive Trainer cards and power-giving Energy cards to find the perfect combinations that will lead you to victory. You and a friend face off with your decks, using your own Pokémon to knock out your friend's Pokémon and taking Prize cards for each battle won. The first player to take all of their opponent's Prize cards wins the game! With the new *Pokémon TCG: Black & White* expansion, you can discover a legion of over 70 never-before-seen Pokémon from the newly explored Unova region, including new starter Pokémon Snivy and Tepig, as well as powerful new Pokémon like Zoroark, Galvantula and Reuniclus! Some Pokémon have all-new special skills called Abilities and cards with these Abilities are extra valuable.

## WIN THIS!

You can win one of five *Pokémon TCG: Black & White* collector's mini-album boxes, SMS\* "NGK Pokemon" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

\*SMSs cost R1,50. Free SMSs don't apply.

## BOOKWORM

## WIN A BOOK!

You can win one of three *Spy dog Joke Book!* SMS\* "NGK Spy" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

### Spy dog: Joke Book

Do you like spies?  
Do you like dogs?

Super spy dog LARA (Licensed Assault and Rescue Animal) is back and this time around you will be rolling around with laughter! The new book is stuffed with awesome games, puzzles, activities and jokes about spies and dogs including Lara the Spy Dog, her friends and enemies. The activities and games will keep you busy for hours! You can also read the new story and a special introduction by LARA's creator, Andrew Cope.

### 150 years of South African Rugby.

Wim van der Berg

If you love sport, especially rugby, be sure to read this amazing collector's item! The first rugby game ever played on South African soil was in 1861. That is exactly 150 years ago! Read how rugby developed to a national obsession and follow the teams and players through the history of South Africa. You can read about how far this game has come and how the game's spirit survived. What is even greater is that it's just in time for the 2011 Rugby World Cup!

Wim van der Berg

# 150 YEARS OF SOUTH AFRICAN RUGBY

## WIN A BOOK!

You can win one of two copies! SMS\* "NGK Rugby" followed by your name, age and address to 33970.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The writer of the book has a dog called Lara. She inspired the *SPY DOG* books!

### DID YOU KNOW?

The 2011 Rugby World Cup starts on 9 September 2011.



DREAMWORKS

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DREAMWORKS

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PG

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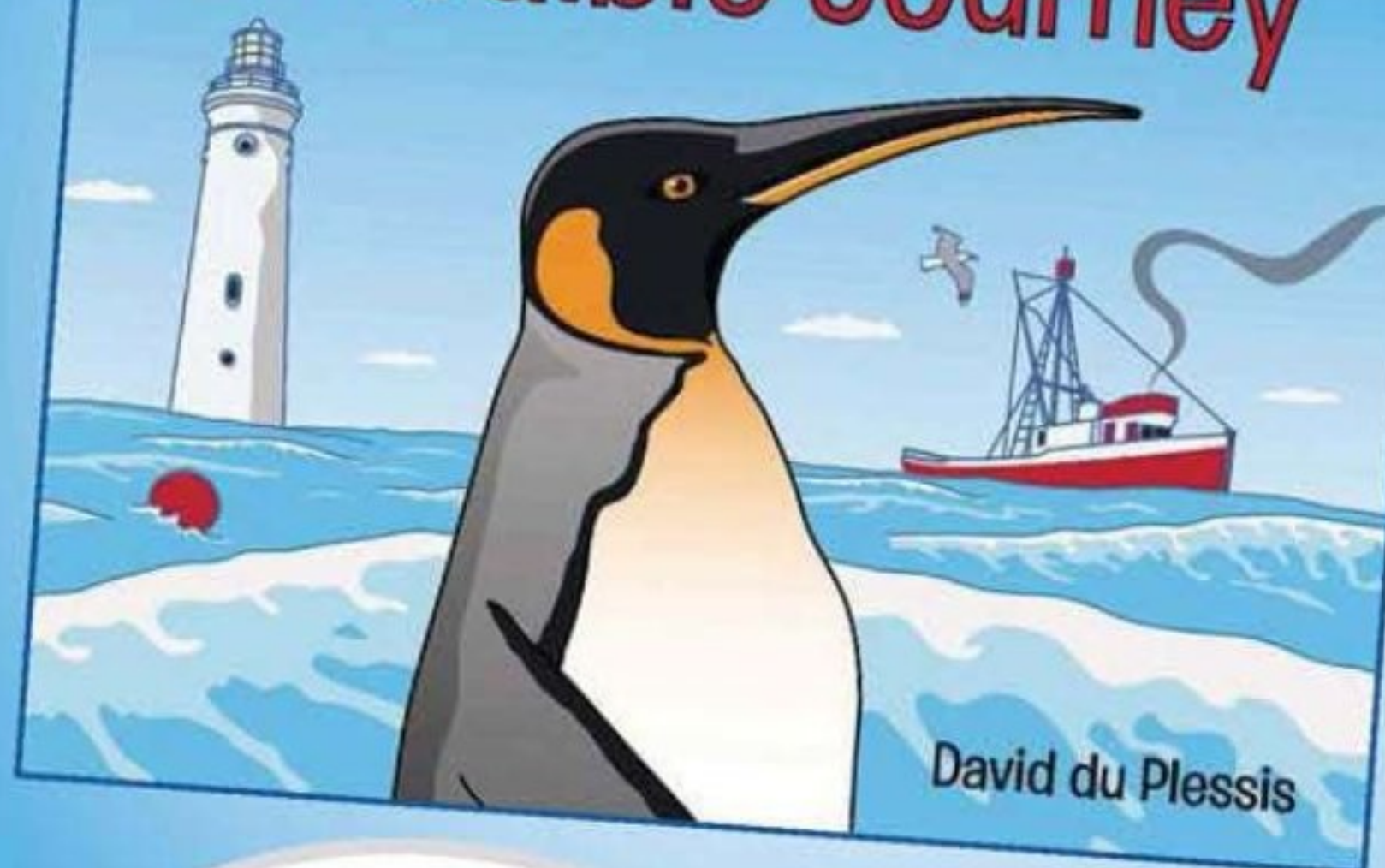


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## Mister King's Incredible Journey



**Mister King's Incredible Journey** is a tale of courage and compassion. The story follows a king penguin captured by fishermen visiting its remote South Atlantic island. Through various adventures, both below and above the waves, the penguin eventually lands up on a beach on the mainland and seems to be destined for the local museum – until nature intervenes!

The book is available at all major bookshops. Visit [www.randomstruik.co.za](http://www.randomstruik.co.za) for more information.

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# Family Project

# PLANET-SAVING PLASTIC FUN

Plastic is convenient but not so good for our planet. Now you can recycle plastic and make something cool for your room! Try this colourful curtain for a window or a door and stop these plastic bottle caps from ending up in a landfill.

Always ask a parent for help when using scissors!



## WHAT YOU NEED

- About nine one-metre-long strands of colourful wool
- As many plastic bottle caps as you can find.
- Scissors
- A thin rod

## DID YOU KNOW?

Plastic bags and other plastic rubbish thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1 million sea creatures every year.

## WHAT YOU DO

- Wash the bottle caps with warm water and let them dry.
- Use the scissors to make holes in the middle of each bottle cap (ask a parent to help you). This is where you will thread the wool.
- Take one strand of wool and tie a knot at the bottom.
- Choose a bottle cap and thread the wool through the hole.
- Push the bottle cap down until it reaches the knot.
- Measure six centimetres from the knot and make another knot. Repeat the steps until the whole string of wool is covered with bottle caps.
- Tie your strands to a piece of wood and hang it in front of your window!



## DID YOU KNOW?

It takes about 450 years just for a plastic bottle to break down in the ground!

September is time to spring clean! Cleanup South Africa Week takes place from 12 to 17 September 2011, culminating in the National Recycling Day on Friday 16 September 2011. The 26th International Coastal Cleanup Day is on Saturday 17 September. It's not only the ocean but also rivers and dams that need cleaning. Visit [www.cleanup-sa.co.za](http://www.cleanup-sa.co.za) for more information.



# SIGNS OF THE TIMES

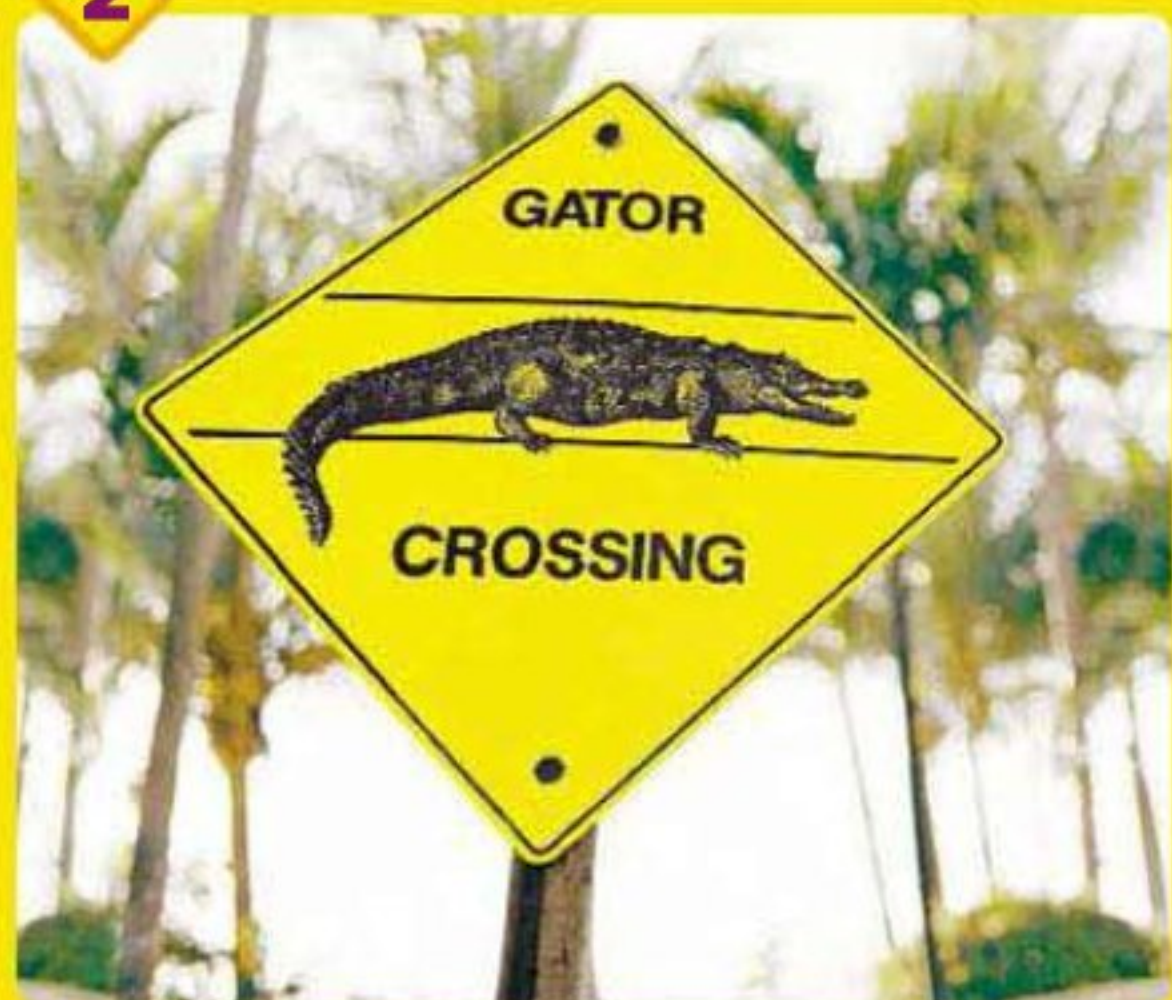
Seeing isn't always believing.  
Two of these funny signs are  
not real. Can you figure out  
which two are fake?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 48

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



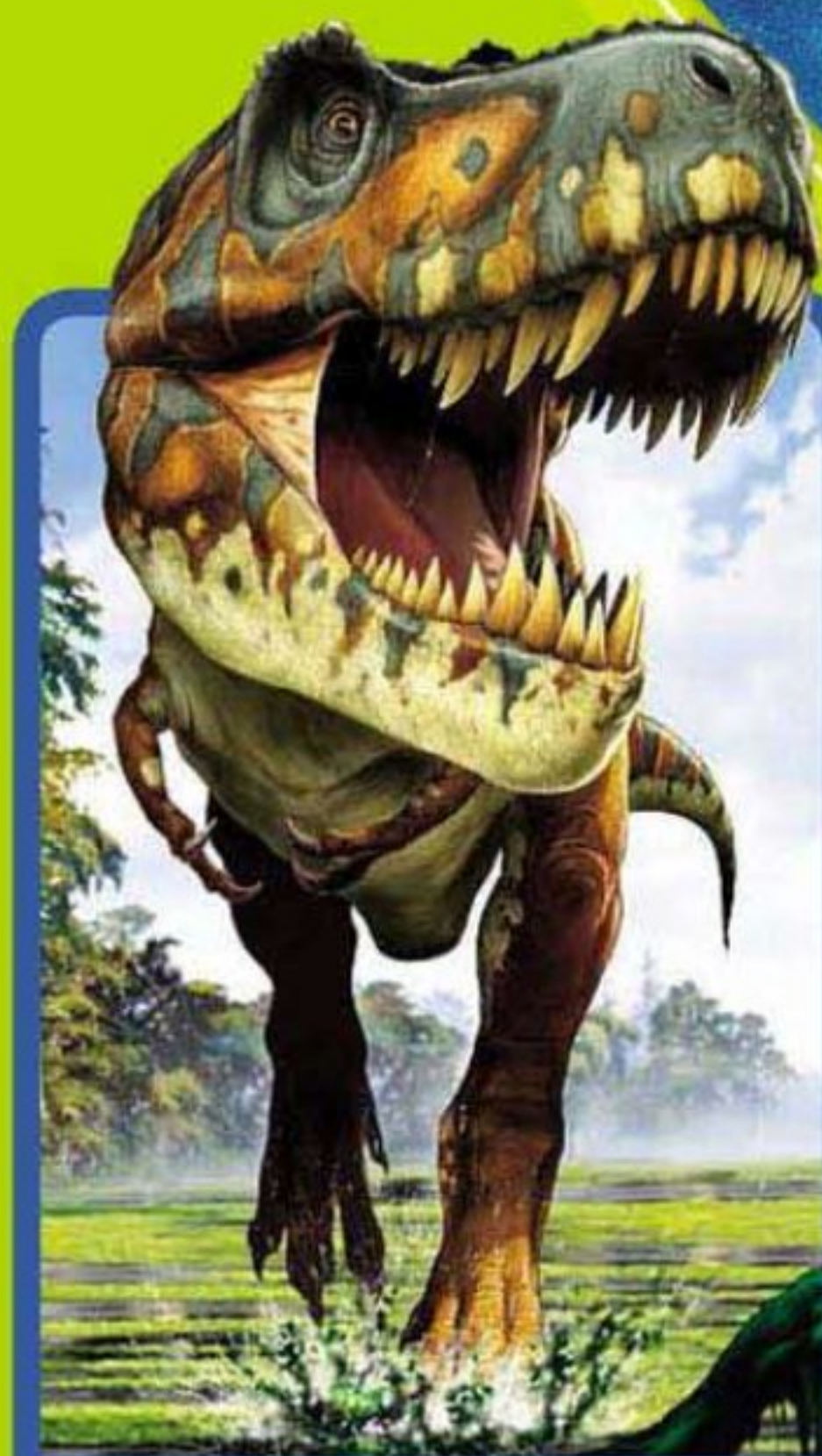
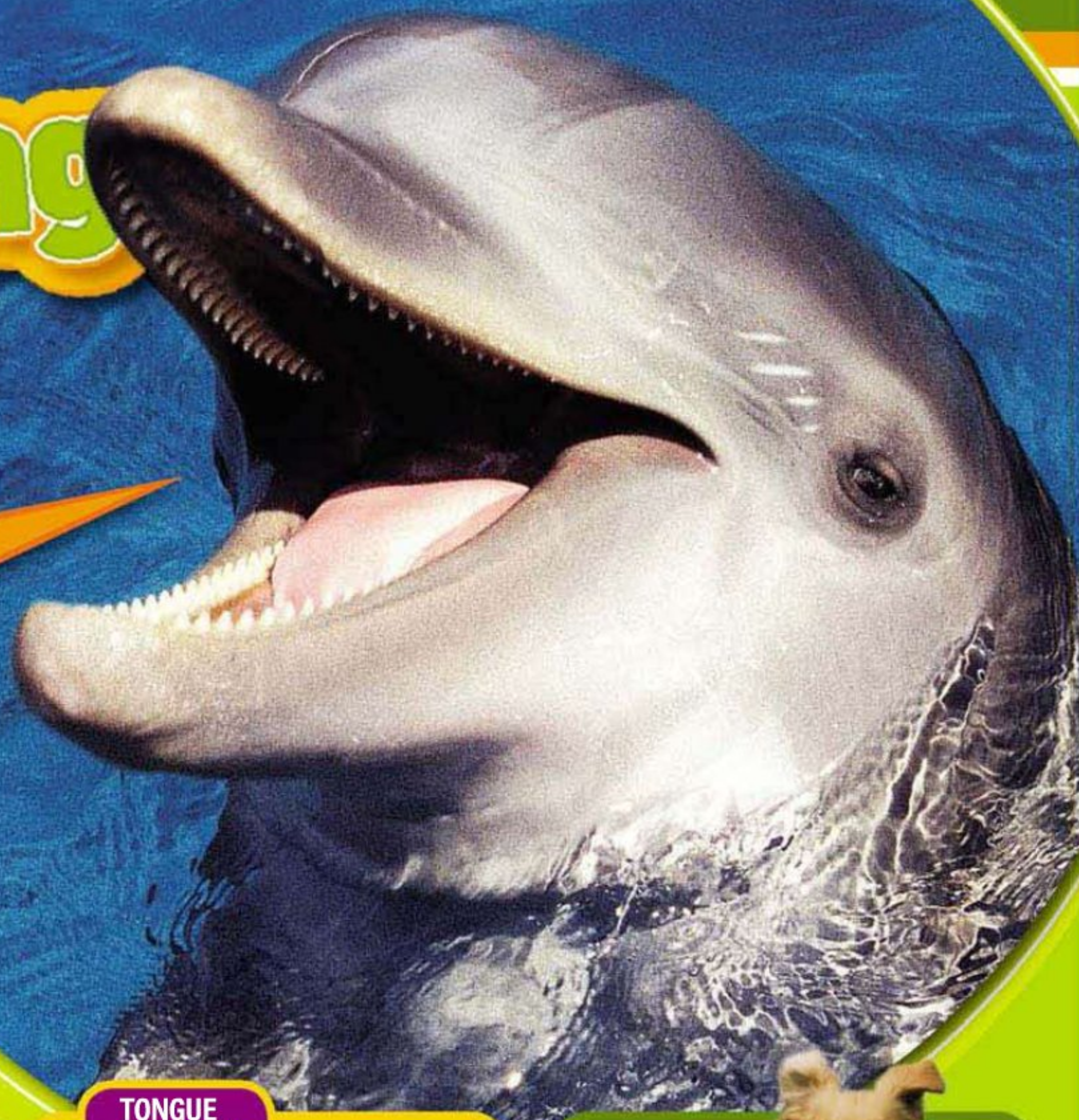
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# Just Joking

**KNOCK,  
KNOCK.**

Who's there?  
Lena.  
Lena who?  
Lena little closer  
and I'll tell you.



**Q** What do you get when two  
dinosaurs crash into each  
other?

**A** A Tyrannosaurus wreck.

**TONGUE  
TWISTER!**

Say this fast three times:

**Two twins  
twirled twelve  
twigs.**

**Q** Why do  
dogs run  
in circles?

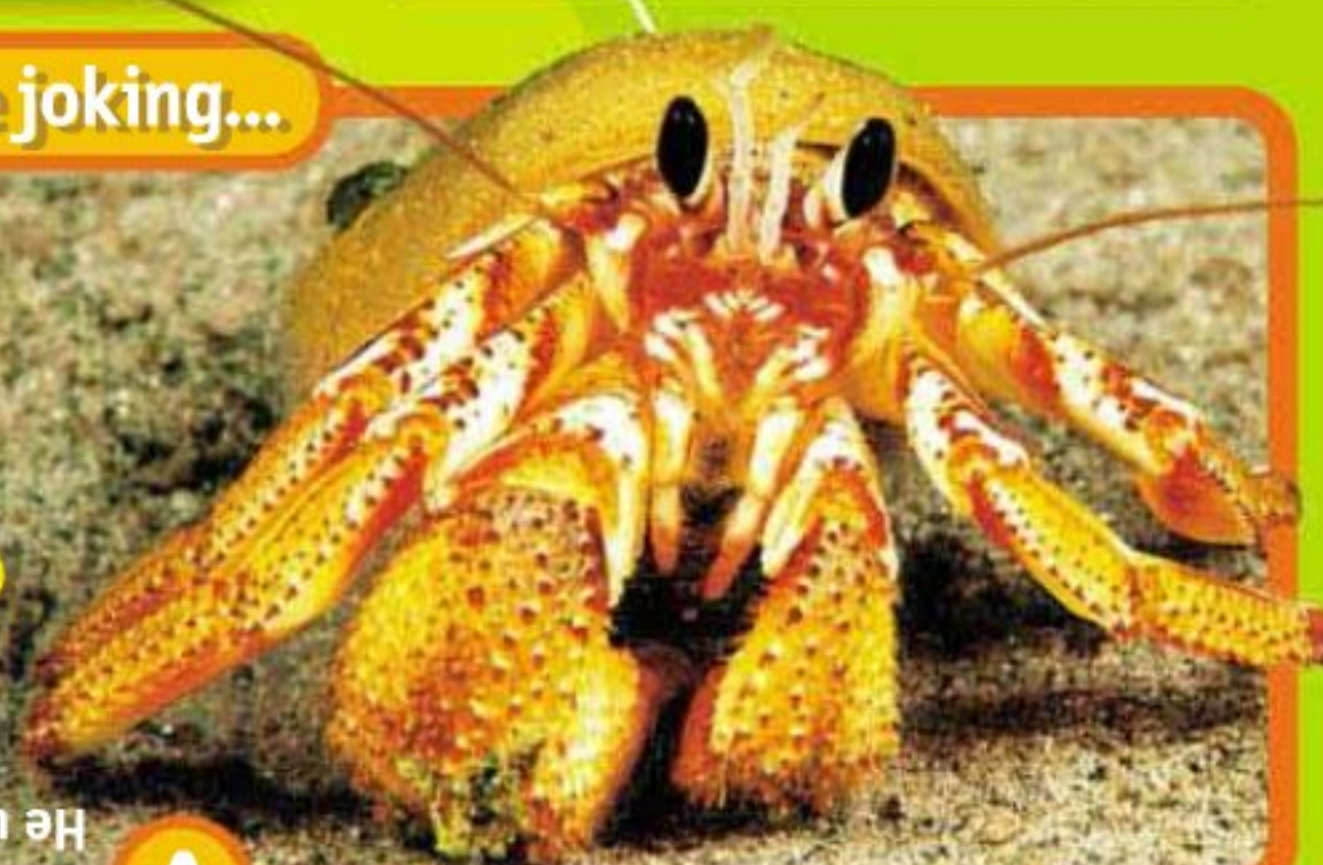
**A** Because it's  
hard to run  
in squares.



**You've got to be joking...**

**Q** How did  
the crab  
call his  
friends?

**A** He used his shell phone.







# Art Zone

NG KIDS readers sent us drawings of their favourite rainforest animals.

Happy Tree Frog  
Yemaja Morley, 10,  
Wilderness



"Reënwood-papegaaï"  
Jeandré van Staden, 7,  
Wierdapark-Suid



Crazy Chameleon  
Jehiel Naidoo, 9,  
Johannesburg



Stalking Leopard  
Andrew Phipott, 9,  
East London



A Lemur  
Jesse le Roux, 10,  
Hoekwil



Toucan Sam  
Dylan Jordaan, 8,  
Queensburgh



## Answers



"What in the World?" (page 40):  
Top row: chameleon, traffic  
lights, garden hose.  
Middle row: grapes, leaf, frog.  
Bottom row: apples, broccoli,  
gumboots  
"Signs of the times"  
(page 46)  
Signs 5 and 7 are fake.



**Jaguar**  
Michael Slaven, 12,  
Framesby



**Tigress**  
Micaela Abreu, 11,  
Cascades



**"Die Blou Toekan"**  
Madenique van Wyk, 12,  
Prieska



**Twilight**  
Michelle Alberts, 8,  
Durbanville

## DRAW a wacky reptile.

Send your **original drawings** to  
The Editor at NG KIDS,  
P.O. Box 2271, Cape Town 8000.

Include your name, address, phone number, date of birth, a title for your drawing, a statement that it is your own work and the name of your parent or guardian. Your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication of your illustration. Submissions become the property of the National Geographic Society, and all rights thereto are transferred to the National Geographic Society. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned. Selection will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.

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GENIUS TOYS





education

# Introducing the Green City Challenge Set!

An introduction to robotics course for students!



In January 2011, LEGO® Education launched the first LEGO-branded and developed introduction to robotics themed set!

The Green City Challenge Set and Green City Challenge Activity Pack center around the theme of renewable energy and are ideal as a classroom beginner package or in-class competition set.

Students are introduced to the world of robotics by first exploring basic programming maneuvers utilizing one of three training mats.

Each training activity focuses on one of the four main LEGO sensors – light, ultrasonic, touch, and sound – and enables students to explore and enhance their programming and sensor knowledge.

After students have completed the training phase and are confident in their robotic building and programming skills, they are presented with the Green City Challenge.

The challenge consists of a number of missions simulating real-life engineering problems, each environmentally focused and conducted on the Green City Competition Mat.

As students complete each challenge mission, they are awarded an energy brick. When all missions are complete, students use their collected energy bricks to power the “Green City.”

Each of the Green City Challenge missions are designed with three skill levels in mind: basic, moderate, and high. This enables teachers to select a level most appropriate for their students based on class progress or individual understanding of robotics.

The three levels can also be used to offer extension challenges to further expand classroom curricula.

The Green City Challenge Set contains three training mats, a challenge mat, and more than 1,300 elements to build challenge models such as a wind turbine and power plant.

The Green City Challenge Activity Pack offers seven easy-to-follow training activities plus challenge missions. Student worksheets, building instructions, programming examples, teacher notes, extension ideas, and mission rules are provided to ensure an easy-to-implement and easy-to-facilitate classroom environment.

A Green City Challenge Combo Pack is also available and includes both the Green City Challenge Set and Green City Challenge Activity Pack at a discount bundle price.

The Green City Challenge Set and Activity Pack are designed for use with the LEGO MINDSTORMS® Education NXT Base Set and LEGO MINDSTORMS Education NXT Software, each sold separately.





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